





# Most women want choice of abortion: poll finds

3.50; Switzerland Sfrs 3.70; Syria  
4.50; Tunisia Din 0.53; USA &  
Canada \$1.50; UAE Dh 0.50; Yugo-  
slavia Din 50.

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26



## HOME NEWS

## Dealers say they did not break law in auction bidding pact

By Geraldine Norman  
Sale Room Correspondent

Three of the world's leading art dealers, Agnew's of Bond Street, Artens of Duke Street and Eugene Thaw of New York, yesterday admitted to entering into a secret auction bidding agreement to acquire a portrait sculpture by Agnelli, but said that they had not broken the law.

The question whether their agreement was legal hangs on the interpretation of the Auctions (Bidding Agreement) Act, 1927.

Their combined bid on the bust of Mgr Cerri at Christie's sale of the contents of North Myms Park last September was £150,000, with Agnelli's premium then paid £165,000. If their agreement was illegal, the sale could be declared void and the bust returned to the vendors.

In December it became known that Agnelli's application to export the bust to the Metropolitan Museum in New York at a valuation of £265,000 had not been accepted by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

It advised Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Minister for the Arts, that the export should be stopped for some months to allow a British institution the time to find money to acquire it, and suggested that a fair market value would be £200,000.

It is almost unprecedented for a dealer's export valuation to be challenged by the committee and Agnelli's have made representations to the Minister disputing the committee's ruling.

Until yesterday it was not publicly known that Agnelli's had made the auction purchase in partnership with other dealers. According to the 1927 Act "if any dealer agrees to give, gives or offers any gift or consideration to any other person as an inducement . . . for

abstaining . . . from bidding at a sale by auction" he shall be guilty of an offence.

It has been generally assumed over the years that the law applies to partnership agreements entered into before auctions.

However, dealers have a way out and can remain within the law, "provided that a dealer has, previously to an auction entered into an agreement in writing . . . and . . . deposited a copy of the agreement with the auctioneer."

Agnew's and their partners did not lodge notice of their agreement with Christie's.

It has generally been considered that an agreement between dealers to bid in partnership on any lot at auction comes within the scope of "an inducement for abstaining from bidding". Both Christie's and Agnelli's say that from time to time they receive notice before a sale of such partnership arrangements. They agree that it does not happen often.

"This could mean that dealers do not act in partnership," one auctioneer said, "or it could mean that they have forgotten that it is necessary to give such notice."

Agnew's, in a statement issued yesterday, challenged that interpretation of the Act. "It has always been and remains our understanding," they said, "that the provisions of that Act are only contravened when any person induces another who would otherwise have bid at an auction to abstain from so doing."

"In this case, however, having regard to the object in question and the likely price, none of the three parties concerned intended to bid solely on its own account but by joining with the others to provide finance jointly to bid themselves in a position to do so."

"So far, therefore, from inducing another not to bid, the arrangement was intended to enable a bid to be made which would not otherwise have been offered."

## Air-rail terminal above Victoria station planned

By John Young  
Planning Reporter

Proposals for a £50m combined rail and air terminal above Victoria station, London, are to be submitted to Westminster City Council next week.

The scheme is the joint work of British Rail and Grayco London Estates, and is described as "a major step forward in planning the future of the station and its surroundings."

The object is to separate airport travellers from the commuters who use the station daily, and so reduce congestion. The number of air passengers using Gatwick is expected to double from fewer than eight million in 1978 to some 16 million in 1984.

If the proposed second terminal, the subject of the inquiry, approved, the total could rise to 25 million by 1991. About a third of Gatwick travellers use the rail link from Victoria, and the proportion is expected to grow.

To accommodate the terminal, it is planned to set up a huge raft over the western half of the station. Development

about the raft would include some 220,000 sq ft of offices on six floors, which would help to finance the cost of the terminal.

Passengers arriving by car and taxi would drive straight up on to the raft, where they would check in their baggage before descending by escalator to one or two platforms reserved for Gatwick services.

"As part of the scheme British Rail intends to introduce a fleet of specially built electric trains, at a further cost of £5.5m, to provide a non-stop service between Victoria and the airport."

The idea for an all-embracing transport interchange at Victoria has hitherto been rejected as too expensive, and British Rail has also claimed that it would be impracticable to build offices above Victoria, as has been done at other London termini.

If the scheme is approved it is hoped to complete it by 1984. Since the listed station buildings and the Grosvenor Hotel will be unaffected, there seems a reasonable chance that a protracted planning inquiry will not be needed.

## Population down but drinking and divorce up

People are drinking more, seeing more films, getting divorced more often, and having more children, according to the Central Statistical Office's annual abstract of statistics, published yesterday.

The publication, which gives annual figures on a variety of subjects from 1968 to 1978, shows that the United Kingdom population fell slightly to 55,800,000 in 1978, but predicts that it will rise to 58,040,000 by the year 2001.

Births in 1978 showed an annual increase for the first time since 1964, and the report predicts a gradual increase of both birth and fertility rates until 1988.

While births increased, the number of children in 1978 who died before their first birthday showed another annual decrease, being almost half that of 1968.

Divorces in England and Wales in 1977 were 3,000 up on the previous year, and almost three times up on 1968. More than two thirds of petitions are filed by women.

Wine drinkers consumed more than 32 million gallons in 1978, twice as much as in 1968 and a big increase on 1977.

Consumption of beer and spirits, which fell in 1977, was up in 1978. Spirits drinking has doubled since 1968.

The number of people watching films rose by 22 per cent last year. A total of 126 million went to the cinema; it was the first rise since 1974 and the half of an alarming slump since 1968, when attendance totalled 237 million.

Pupils obtained more O and A-level examination passes in the 1976-77 school year than in the previous year. The number of those who left school with no qualification declined.

The fall in the marriage rate continued in 1977. More people got married between the ages of 21 and 24 than at any other time. But the numbers marrying between the ages of 30 and 34 showed a marked increase.

## Action promised on audit report of LT 'waste'

Sir Horace Cudde, leader of the Greater London Council, yesterday promised to take action to ensure that London Transport's executive "faces up to its responsibilities" after an auditors' report on allegations of wasting public money.

Mr Leslie Chapman, a former civil servant and author of *Your Disobedient Servant* and part-time member of the London Transport Board, has claimed that public cash has been squandered.

Sir Horace said: "It is quite clear to me that the differences between Mr Chapman and the executive are mainly of quantity and degree. But equally clearly there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the executive of LT have a substantial managerial job to do very quickly indeed."

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The Prince of Wales during his tour yesterday of the headquarters in Esher, Surrey, of the General and Municipal Workers' Union. It was his third visit to a trade union in recent months. Mr David Bassnett, the general secretary, is behind the Prince.

## Expense curbs heart transplants

By Nicholas Timmins

The early success of this week's two heart transplants has increased optimism about the future of the operation in Britain. Both patients yesterday were said to be doing well.

It is early days yet for both Mr Ronald Marney, aged 50, who yesterday was well enough to eat steak and chips, to see his three sons and to spend a brief time out of bed, and Mr Nigel Olney, aged 35, Tuesday's recipient.

Mr Keith Castle, aged 52, a Battersea builder, has now spent more than six months with his new heart, and Mr Andrew Barlow, aged 29, is expected to leave hospital shortly after his transplant in November.

But while some further transplants can be expected, a rush to set up new teams is unlikely. Shortage of health service funds and skilled staff, the need to follow cases for long periods, and a possible reorganisation of cardiac units is likely to ensure that.

Professor John Goodwin, Professor of Clinical Cardiology at Hammersmith Hospital and a member of the Government's transplant advisory panel, says that steadily improving results show heart transplantation "is no longer purely a research activity". Despite the numbers who could benefit, estimated at

not fewer than 100 a year and maybe many more, he does not expect a big expansion in activity.

"Tight cash limits are making it very difficult even to keep going with the work we are doing already. All of us want to ensure that our current work is getting maximum support before we embark on anything new, and it is likely that much of the funds will have to come from sources outside the NHS."

A report recommending a rationalisation of cardiac units, with fewer centres doing more work, is due for publication this month. Such a course is likely to restrict new ventures.

No single breakthrough has led to the more optimistic outlook for voluntary heart-year moratorium in Britain up to last year. In the United States Dr Norman Shumway, who has performed just over half of all the world's transplants, has been getting steadily improving results, about half of those who survive the operation have a five-year life expectancy.

A better understanding of rejection and new drugs have helped, as have improved techniques for treating the infections that easily set in during treatment to prevent rejection.

And a crucial factor has been the widespread acceptance by doctors, and apparently by the

public, of the concept of brain death. In 1976 the royal colleges circulated tests to establish brain death in, for example, road crash victims, where the brain dies but heart-beat and breathing are maintained by machine.

The tests are carried out by doctors unconnected with the transplant, and if brain death is established the heart can be removed while still beating. This is essential for success, as surgeons say, to prevent damage from oxygen starvation.

The Department of Health gave cautious approval for transplants to restart in 1978, on condition that they were not done at the expense of other NHS patients. Centres performing them had to have adequate back-up facilities, including knowledge of treating rejection, and the operations were to be part of a planned programme.

Transplants, however, are expensive. The estimated cost in the first year is about £15,000, and the department is providing no central funds. Although three of the five performed this year have been paid for by the NHS, the most recent two in Cambridge were backed by a £50,000 grant from the National Heart Research Fund, which hopes to raise a further £250,000 and is in contact with more possible transplant teams.

## Chief constable challenges MP to prove charges

By Our Education Correspondent

In deciding which schools to close local authorities should take into account as far as possible the views of parents, Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday. It was the least popular schools that should close.

Speaking during a tour of Staffordshire, Mr Carlisle repeated the Government's commitment to maintaining standards in education and to raising standards in areas where the needs of children were not being met.

"Whatever else is achieved in a child's formal education, that child should emerge from five years of compulsory schooling competent in reading and writing, able to use and understand mathematics, and with a general knowledge and understanding of the world in which we live. This is a minimum standard."

Education had to take its share of the public spending cuts, but it was his firm intention to make sure that what was spent was better spent than before and to see that as far as possible cuts fell outside the classroom.

Falling numbers of pupils made it possible to make savings without damaging educational standards, he insisted.

## Popularity 'should decide a school's future'

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## BL starts 'hot line' on car safety records

From Peter Waymark  
Motoring Correspondent  
Oxford

A telephone "hot line" for motorists has been set up by BL Cars. It was inaugurated yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, the Minister of Transport.

The system, which is new to Europe, draws on computer records to tell motorists immediately whether their car is affected by a safety recall campaign. Potential second-hand buyers can discover if safety checks have been carried out on a vehicle.

Mr Fowler, who was opening BL's new service headquarters at Cowley, Oxford, said: "This is an important development and it is a safety modification."

To use the "hot line" a motorist must telephone Oxford 774663 and give the registration or chassis number of his vehicle. It cannot deal with cars registered before 1973.

The idea comes from the United States, where a "hot line" is run by a government body, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In America 11,700,000 vehicles were subject to recall campaigns last year.

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## Parents are blamed for impaired speech

By Diana Gaddes  
Education Correspondent

Children from all types of social background often start school with impaired speech because their parents fail to talk enough to them, according to a report published today.

Parents are also criticized for failing to teach good table manners.

More than 60 nursery, infant and primary school teachers took part in a survey on nursery education carried out by the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association. Their views are published in *Report*, the association's monthly journal.

A teacher from Burton-on-Trent said: "These days, in the affluent society, mothers spend too much time keeping their houses spotless and drinking coffee with their neighbours. They hardly ever converse with their offspring."

Another teacher from a rural school said: "I am afraid that the church primary school said that she often had to do speech therapy because even children from comparatively 'good' homes spoke poorly."

We have to reach most of these children before they use a knife and fork, because in this age of convenience foods it is simpler to give them just a spoon at home."

One teacher described children who rarely spoke, were frightened of going to the lavatory, and could not dress themselves. Another teacher said that she made a point of having a one-to-one conversation at least once every day with each child.

Many children needed a lot of practice and encouragement in language development. Most teachers were convinced of the importance of nursery schooling. A Bristol nursery school teacher said: "Research has shown that by the time a child is four he has attained half his mature intelligence."

Some teachers were sceptical about the long-term gains, however, from a one-to-one approach. "Infants' school said that although in September it was easy to see which children had attended the nursery school, by Christmas that was not so; and in subsequent terms there was no apparent benefit shown."

Some people felt the Services should be turned into a sort of youth club, getting layabouts off the street, having their hair cut, getting them to stand up straight and take an emergency life-line. Professional soldiers whose job was to defend their country did not want to be turned into youth leaders.

He felt, however, that there should be some way of identifying the kind of people who would be needed in an emergency, such as doctors. Consideration should be given to a selection register.

Mr Bruce George (Walsall, South) said this country needed to reform the internal procedures within the military to make more effective use of existing resources. More men should be encouraged to remain in the Services.

Mr William Reed-Dawes (Isle of Thanet, C) said it was not necessary to have a national campaign to secure voluntary recruitment into the regular armed forces and a substantial recruitment into the TA.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said they had got to be careful about the war atmosphere that was being created. They could drift step by step into a heated state of emergency. Was the proposal for a register to deal with subversives?

He was not particularly happy with the appointment of Major General Kinnaird as Deputy C-in-C UK Land Forces, having read his book and considering the type of philosophy he was developing, as though this country had an internal enemy, meaning people involved in strike action. Was the proposal to set up a register to deal with trade unionists in disarray?

Mr Jonathan Aitken (East Thanet, C) said the register was the minimum instalment of an insurance policy that a government should make in the worsening international situation today.

Mr Russell Kerr (Hounslow, Feltham and Ruislip, Lab) said he had in mind a different sort of register—a national community service register.

Youngsters when they got to, say, 18 at the same time as they registered to vote would be asked to fill in a form having one of 25, 30 or 35 choices. Three would be

## PARLIAMENT, Feb 1, 1980

## Modern forces need 'The Professionals': conscription ruled out

House of Commons

"Bloody conscript soldiers march on to the front. You would not be conscripts but you would be before."

Mr Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C) recalled this song from World War when he urged the Government to draw up a register of those eligible for national or military service.

He said that the song illustrated one of the side effects which bringing forward legislation would have. He doubted if it would be unpopular. It would certainly stimulate recruitment and expansion of the voluntary services—the TA, naval and air force auxiliary reserves.

The motion he moved called attention to the establishment by law of a register of those eligible for national or military service. It noted the successive acts of military aggression organized by the Soviet Union culminating in the invasion of Afghanistan and the growing domination of Soviet policy by the largest military and armaments machine in history.

Now and over the next decade the greatest danger to world peace lies in the history of a sustained Western military and diplomatic response.

Mr Fraser said it was neither a belated nor one calling for the immediate reintroduction of national service. It asked for the first payment of an insurance policy, that and no more.

The old British military adage "When in danger put more men in the front line" was the dangerous decade which lay ahead.

What was needed was not the cutting off of grain supplies or diplomatic relations or boycotting of one Olympic Games, but an adequate and enduring response by the West and perhaps by Britain in particular.

His proposal was the quickest and the cheapest and most effective. It was a British and not a European proposal. The British were serious people.

What he proposed was not an act of hysteria. Far from being aggressive it was a minimal act of prudence.

Mr Dajelly (West Lothian, Lab) said the motion was ill-considered, ill-informed and irresponsible. The act of drawing up a register would be drawing up a milestone along the road to a position where the nations of the world could head off Afghanistan into an unprovoked war.

No-one suggested the British was trying to set out on a world adventure, being in the world. Ireland and in the same way the Russians were not trying to dominate the world by being in Afghanistan.

I am sure that the (added) never imagined in their wildest dreams that their action in Afghanistan would have this effect. It is a very serious matter, and we are going to talk ourselves into a dangerous position.

Mr Cranley Owsley (Woking, C) said if the Government were to be turned into trained soldiers only the professionals now serving could train them. They would resent that a register would be a threat to their status of contributing to the front line of the nation's defence.

Some people felt the Services should be turned into a sort of youth club, getting layabouts off the street, having their hair cut, getting them to stand up straight and take an emergency life-line. Professional soldiers whose job was to defend their country did not want to be turned into youth leaders.

He felt, however, that there should be some way of identifying the kind of people who would be needed in an emergency, such as doctors. Consideration should be given to a selection register.

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the air force, army and the navy and the rest would include important voluntary services, such as the fire service and caring for old people. They would then state their order of preference.

Dr Alan Glynn (Windsor and Maidenhead, C) said the nation had to realize they were living in dangerous times and the country lacked a Home Guard and an organised civil defence system.

Mr Dennis Connaman (Mansfield, Lab), an Opposition spokesman on defence, said the motion would be seen as another over-reaction and was unnecessary. It was not required by the armed forces and youth would resent it. If the time came when they were needed and youth were told what was required of them, they would do it.

He would agree to a voluntary work scheme, but managers ought to be encouraged to give the young time off to take part in it.

Mr Barney Hayhoe, Under Secretary of Defence for the Army (Hounslow, Brentford and Uxbridge, C) said the return to British air in the traditional all-volunteer Service had brought many advantages. It was more cost-effective, less wasteful, and national service required more back-up and a much larger training organization than a modern army required. The modern army required a high level of training body of men and women, not without reason called "The Professionals".

The Government had inherited shortages of many thousands of officers and men and, as a result, substantial numbers of their companies in cadre form. Some ships were in the stand-by squadrons, and they were short of pilots in the RAF.

People had been leaving at an unacceptable rate but the situation had since much improved. In the year ending 1979, recruiting had been 27 per cent up on the comparative quarter of the year before. Recruiting had been twice before—in 1961 and 1971.

They were getting people of the right quality as well as the right quantity. The quality of recruits was better. The strength of the Armed Forces had been increasing the past few months for the first time for many years.

He did not believe that conscription would solve manpower problems. It would almost certainly make the situation more complicated. It would require a diversion of training resources, a diversion of training resources, and would absorb scarce resources.

In purely defence terms, there was no advantage at all in conscription. The Government was making a substantial contribution to Britain's military capability by increasing the number of recruits. With the improvement in the name, increased training and more over-age recruits, the number of recruits in the TA had increased by 2,000 and their training was being improved.

He hoped employers would release TA members for their essential training.

It was estimated that a reinforcement plan to speed up mobilization which the Government had produced would probably reduce the time for effective mobilization by 30 per cent, which was a significant gain. The proposal for a register would be required to administer the scheme in local offices throughout the country. National records would have to be checked to ensure the register's details were complete.

Reserved occupations would have to be considered. This would be a difficult task involving decisions which would be bound to cause controversy. They would have to be taken by the Government and would be required to register as well as men.

There would be a considerable financial cost. The Government was trying to cut public expenditure and the size of the civil Service. It would be a very expensive scheme. It would be bound to create a climate of uncertainty among young people and those in higher education.

A general register going right across the country could not help as regards military capability. There is no intention on the Government's part to introduce national service or conscription. I do not believe there is a military or defensive need for conscription.



WEST EUROPE

# Mr Jenkins criticized for going beyond EEC ruling on butter

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, Feb 1

A serious dispute has broken out in the EEC over the measures announced by the European Commission for curbing butter exports to the Soviet Union as part of a coordinated campaign by the Non-Communist West to penalize the Russians for their invasion of Afghanistan.

Mr Roy Jenkins, the President of the Commission, is being accused of exceeding the authority he was given by EEC foreign ministers last month when they agreed that any controls on agricultural exports to the Soviet Union should "respect traditional trade flows".

The main attack on the Commission comes from the French and Irish, supported somewhat less vehemently by the Danish, while Mr Jenkins is strongly backed by the British, who want subsidized butter sales to the Soviet Union kept to the absolute minimum.

The disagreement started at a confidential meeting yesterday of the committee of permanent representatives in Brussels, and was provoked by Mr Jenkins's remarks earlier the same day to the political affairs committee of the European Parliament.

In his report to the Parliament Mr Jenkins said that the Commission did not envisage any butter sales to the Soviet Union in the near future, and that any eventual sale would be made from the Community's stockpiles of old butter in limited quantities and at realistic prices. Except for small amounts of butter in 1lb packs no export subsidies would be available.

Mr Brendan Dillon, the Irish Ambassador, accused Mr Jenkins of wilfully ignoring the decision of EEC foreign ministers, and said that the ban on the sale of fresh butter to the Soviet Union would cause great damage to his country.

Ireland has no stockpiles of old butter, which are mainly in

West Germany and France, and normally exports between 10,000 and 15,000 tonnes of fresh butter a year to the Russians.

Mr Luc de la Barre de Nanteuil, the French Ambassador, said his government was "most distressed" by the Commission's action and accused Mr Jenkins of committing the EEC politically in a way that went beyond his authority.

The French economic interest in maintaining subsidized sales of surplus butter at a high level is best illustrated by recent statistics which show that last year about half the 149,000 tonnes of butter exported to the Soviet Union came from France. Britain's attitude is similarly explicable in economic terms since it is not a surplus dairy producer, but, as the biggest net contributor to the EEC budget, none the less pays the lion's share of the cost of subsidizing export.

On the face of it Mr Jenkins does appear to have interpreted his brief from EEC foreign ministers somewhat liberally. His main aim appears to be to forestall demands for even stronger action from the European Parliament when it meets later this month in Strasbourg.

The Americans have also been pressing for a ban on export of butter on the grounds that such sales could make the American embargo on feed-grain supplies to the Soviet Union less effective. One effect of the embargo, it is argued, will be to force the Russians to slaughter cows.

The Commission, and officials from member states, are to examine at a meeting next Monday the imposition of controls on beef exports to the Soviet Union. These would be similar to those now in force or planned in the dairy sector.

Although the EEC is not a big supplier of beef to the Russians in normal circumstances, shortage of feed-grains could lead to a sharp drop in Russian meat production and force Moscow to look for extra external supplies.

# Basque extremists kill six Civil Guards in ambush

From Harry Debellus, Madrid, Feb 1

Basque extremists ambushed a small convoy near Bilbao this morning, killing six policemen and hijacking a Land-Rover ammunition. Police recovered the Land-Rover and its cargo about midday.

The six policemen were members of the Civil Guard, which is considered a part of the military establishment. For this reason it was one of the most serious incidents in the underground war of independence being waged by Basque activists. The number of Civil Guard policemen killed was the highest in any single incident, and their deaths are bound to heighten the tension between important segments of the armed forces and the Government.

That tension gave rise to a report published a week ago—denied by the Government—that a plan for a military coup had been thwarted. Police sus-

pect the military wing of the secessionist movement ETA was responsible for today's attack.

Meanwhile in Madrid, military authorities ordered the editor of the Madrid evening newspaper *Diario 16*, which published the coup report last Friday, to be court-martialled on charges of insulting the armed forces. The editor, Señor Miguel Angel Aguilar, had been given notice to reveal the source of his report. When he left the military headquarters this morning after being charged Señor Aguilar told reporters that he told the military judge that he had not yet been able to determine which members of his staff were responsible for gathering all of the information in the story in question. He said that in any case he considered it his duty to accept full responsibility for publication of the article. If convicted he faces up to six years' imprisonment.

# £266,000 theft as bank families are held hostage

From Harry Debellus, West Germany, Feb 1

Two robbers escaped with more than £266,000 when they forced bank employees to empty the safe after taking their families hostage, police said today.

The robbery, one of the largest in West German history, began yesterday when two men in their early thirties called at the home of Herr Martin Heckmann, manager of the regional savings bank here.

They forced Herr Heckmann's 20-year-old daughter to call her father home on an urgent matter. She, her mother, older brother and sister were tied up before Herr Heckmann arrived.

One robber held the family hostage while the other forced Herr Heckmann to open the town's combination locks from three bank employees.

The families of each of the bank employees were taken to Herr Heckmann's house and tied up. Herr Heckmann and his colleagues watched the robber empty the safe and then they all drove back to the manager's home.

The robbers left 13 bound hostages who were not found until late last night when one freed himself and called the police.—UPI.

# Princess Beatrix becomes Dutch Queen on April 30

From Robert Schull, Amsterdam, Feb 1

Crown Princess Beatrix will become Queen of the Netherlands on April 30, the day on which her mother, Queen Juliana, officially abdicates. It is also the present Queen's birthday when she will be 71 years old.

This was announced tonight by Mr Andries van Agt, the Prime Minister.

Dutch monarchs are not crowned or enthroned but are confirmed as sovereign at a special meeting of the States General in Amsterdam. This is combined with a meeting of upper and lower Houses of Parliament.

The installation of the new monarch does not necessarily have to take place on the day of the abdication of the previous monarch, as signing the act of abdication of the heir automatically assumes the throne.

The installation of the new queen will take place in the so-called New Church which is actually one of the oldest churches in Amsterdam.

There were many expressions of gratitude for the years, more than 31, that the Queen had devoted to her people. Mr van Agt speaking on radio and

# Military aid from France confirmed by Tunisia

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, Feb 1

Hezbollah, the Tunisian Prime Minister, confirmed today on Radio Monte Carlo that France had immediately responded to his request for assistance after Sunday's terrorist attack on Gafsa, and dispatched naval units to the area, as well as helicopters and transport aircraft.

The three surface vessels and four submarines patrolling in the western Mediterranean were "a very important and valuable presence," Mr Nouri said.

The French Defence Ministry denied press reports, however, that units of the 11th Parachute Regiment stationed at Pau had been sent out to reinforce Tunisian troops in the Gafsa area.

The Tunisian authorities deny that the three Transall transport aircraft and two Puma helicopters took a direct part in the mopping up operations against the insurgents, who had already been effectively neutralized. The aircraft only helped to evacuate the wounded.

The aircraft were sent within the framework of the technical cooperation agreement between the two countries—France has no defence agreement with Tunisia—which provides for the dispatch of French military advisers and supply of arms and equipment for the Tunisian forces. There are at present about 100 French advisers in the country.

The 22,000-strong Tunisian army is apparently short of military transport aircraft, hence the request for French assistance.

The Tunisian forces appear to have a military situation under control.

The Government was now concerned with the ramifications of the plot, which was believed to have been inspired by Libya, but remote-controlled from Moscow. A plot to destabilize Tunisia existed, he claimed, ever since the abortive attempt at unification between Libya and Tunisia in 1972.

The attackers of Gafsa, equipped with very sophisticated Russian weapons, were infiltrated from Algeria, particularly with the complicity of local Algerian elements, but certainly not of Alefers, in order to create trouble between the two countries, he added. Relations between Algeria and Tunisia have notably improved recently.

The French Government is keeping a very close watch on developments in Tunisia, where the advanced age of President Habib Bourguiba and a sense of political frustration create favourable conditions for Libyan-sponsored destabilization.

Mr Ibrahim Toubal, a Tunisian opposition leader, accused France today of sending its Navy, Air Force and paratroops to save the Government of President Bourguiba.

In a letter made available in Algeria, he urged resistance by all means to what he called French military intervention in Tunisia.—Reuter.

Libyan denial: In a statement the Libyan Foreign Ministry today denied Tunisian Government accusations about involvement in the Gafsa incident.—UPI.

OVERSEAS



Diplomats home: The six Americans who escaped from Iran arrive home at the State Department, Washington, to jubilant cheers yesterday but an even greater welcome was given to Mr Gilles Matheiu, Canada's Chargé d'Affaires. The six are, from the left: Mr Robert Anders, Kathleen and Joseph Stafford, Cora and Mark Lijek

and Henry Lee Schatz. It was the first public appearance the group has made since flying into Dover Air Force base on Wednesday and Mr Anders, the senior official among the six, read a statement for all of them.

In his statement, Mr Anders explained how they escaped: "When the embassy was overrun on November 4,

five of us were working in the consular section at the rear of the embassy compound, some distance from the chancery where the main attack was centered. Thus, we were able to leave the premises unobserved. We made our way to our homes or the home of friends. As the situation became more tense, we were able to move to Canadian premises where we remained."

# President Carter faces a new generation of draft protesters

From Michael Lespman, New York, Feb 1

President Carter's suggestion that it might be necessary to reintroduce conscription has provoked growing protests on American college campuses in the week since he made it. Students, who have lain dormant since the early seventies are being given expression by young people—women as well as men this time—who do not want to be forced to join the armed forces.

In his State of the Union address last week the President said he would seek authority to renew the registration of people eligible for conscription, or the draft. He added that this was simply a measure of preparedness and he hoped that nobody would actually have to be called up.

The protests took a few days to build up, but by the end of this week dozens of colleges across the country had been affected by them. "Hell, no, we won't go," the slogan of the anti-draft movement during the Vietnam War—was being chanted again by a new generation of students.

Reports of rallies came from Iowa, Michigan, Connecticut,

Ohio and Massachusetts, and more are scheduled for this weekend in California, Texas and Missouri.

At Columbia University, New York, the scene of some of the most publicized anti-war rallies in the late sixties, there was a scuffle between protesters and a smaller group of students who supported the draft.

During the fight, an American flag, which had been carried by the pro-draft group, was burnt by some of the protesters, who numbered several hundred. A member of the New York City Council told the rally: "The President has made the young people of America and their families and friends pawns in his pursuit of re-election."

If young men are required to register, young women may have to do so as well this time. Mrs Rosalynn Carter, the President's wife, has said she is in favour of this, and the President is believed to agree.

This proposal is being opposed both by groups which support women's equality and those who oppose it. The latter believe that it may be a backdoor of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)—which would enshrine equal rights in the Constitution—as ammunition

in their campaign to get the amendment ratified in sufficient states to make it law.

Supporters of ERA, however, argue that until the amendment is law and women have equal rights with men, they should not be made to fulfil equal obligations. In Washington yesterday some leaders of the women's movement met to express their views.

Mrs Bella Abzug, a former member of Congress from New York, said: "Women will never shirk their responsibility to this country but I think it is hypocritical and cynical after our working all these years for economic equality and inclusion in decision-making to ask women to demonstrate our equality of sacrifice instead."

Mr Thomas O'Neill, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, said that the registration of women was not a matter for Congress. He did not think it would be approved.

In a poll taken by the Associated Press and NBC News 78 per cent of those questioned said they were in favour of draft registration and 17 per cent were against it. On drafting women, 50 per cent were for it and 45 per cent against it.

# Soviet block puts off Bonn talks

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Feb 1

A sudden silence appeared to fall over West German discussions with East Europe this week after three communist countries put off ministerial contacts with Bonn.

The Czechoslovak Government postponed a planned visit to Prague by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, and Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, asked Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, if they could put off fixing a date for their forthcoming meeting. Yesterday Mr Prigyes Pujia, the Hungarian Foreign Minister, called off a visit to Bonn on February 7.

The Soviet Union also asked to postpone a meeting of the Soviet-West German trade commission.

On the western side Count Lambdorff, the Economics Minister, put off talks in Poland, and Herr Herbert Ehrenberg, excused himself from a trip to the Soviet Union.

The postponements have, however, been accompanied by assurances that the countries concerned are anxious to maintain good relations and have no less conspicuous levels of business between the two blocks is continuing as normal.

Both Herr Schmidt and Herr Genscher have repeatedly emphasized the importance they attach to keeping contacts open with the communists after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. But the East Europeans' reluctance to talk is being taken plain.

It is believed here that the standstill in ministerial exchanges has been ordered by the Soviet Union while it digests the reaction to its behaviour in Afghanistan.

# Mr Kennedy hits at Carter 'war hysteria'

Washington, Feb 1—Senator Edward Kennedy today accused the Carter Administration of generating war hysteria over Soviet moves towards the Gulf area.

Mr Kennedy, who appears to be trailing the President badly in his race to become the Democratic Party's Presidential candidate this year, said the United States seemed unable to find the support it needed from NATO allies, Japan, Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations to meet the Soviet threat.

He was commenting on remarks made in India yesterday by Mr Clark Clifford, President Carter's special envoy, who said: "They (the Soviet Union) must know that if part of their plan is to move toward the Persian Gulf that means war."

Today Mr Kennedy said in a television interview: "I am strongly opposed to unilateral action by the United States in that part of the world. We do have vital interests

and they must be secured. But that kind of talk is getting us very close to a war-type of hysteria."

He added: "I think there is a war hysteria in this country now."

Senator Kennedy was campaigning in New England, where he will face Mr Carter in two important primary elections this month.

Polls show the President leading by nearly two-to-one in one of the primary states, New Hampshire, about the same as his margin of victory in Iowa last week.—Reuter.

Insurgents trained by American combat troops may have arrived in Pakistan to train Afghan insurgents fighting the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul, the *Times* of India reported today.

Working side-by-side to arm and train the tribesmen, the paper said, Pakistan, the United States and China were trying to bring them together under some sort of unified command.—Agence France-Presse.

# China and Japan join Olympics boycott

Continued from page 1

It was clearly inappropriate to hold the summer Olympics in the Soviet capital, while the Soviet Union continues to occupy Afghanistan in disregard of the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly.

The statement continued: "We support the call on the International Olympic Committee to decide on the transfer or cancellation of the games, and we will work to promote such a decision."

In case the International Olympic Committee fails to make such a decision, the Chinese Government will ask the Chinese Olympic Committee to consider seriously staying away

from the twenty-second summer Olympic Games in Moscow.

This statement said the Chinese Government is prepared to consult with other countries on this question so as to take necessary measures in concert with them.

China's *Sports Daily* published photographs of Adolf Hitler giving the Nazi salute at the 1936 summer Olympics and said world opinion would not tolerate a replay of the Berlin games in Moscow this year.

Captions under the photographs said that two months after the 1936 Olympics, "the executioner Hitler" sent troops to fight for the fascists in the Spanish Civil War.

Zaire out: Zaire will not participate in the Moscow games, announced in Kinshasa.

Soviet alarm: The summer Olympics "are unthinkable" without the presence of American athletes, the vice-president of the Moscow games organizing committee said.

Mr Vitali Smirnov made the comment at a press conference in Paris, the first given by a senior Soviet sports official since the intervention in Afghanistan and President Carter's boycott appeal.

The absence of American and other athletes would considerably reduce the level of competition in Moscow, he added.—Reuter, UPI, AP and Agence France-Presse.

# Guatemala embassy protester is abducted

Guatemala City, Feb 1—

About 15 heavily armed men stormed a hospital in Guatemala City today and carried off the lone survivor of the three dozen protesters who died in a fire at the besieged Spanish Embassy on Thursday.

It was not known whether the abductors were comrades of the man, who was badly burned, or members of Guatemala's Right-wing "death squads," which have allegedly killed and kidnapped hundreds of Guatemalans opposed to the Government.

The embassy fire started after police attacked the building on Thursday to drive out protesters who had seized it earlier in the day. Thirty-nine people died in the embassy.

Guatemala authorities blame the deaths on a bludgeoned by one of the protesters. But the Spanish Ambassador, one of only two survivors, said gunfire started as the police smashed into the embassy offices.

The man abducted today was identified as Señor Gregorio Chuy, a peasant. The protesters said they were all peasants from northern Guatemala and had been demanding an end to what they saw as Government repression in the area.—AP.

Links severed: Spain broke off diplomatic relations with Guatemala today over the storming of the Spanish Embassy (Herry Debellus writes from Madrid).

A communiqué issued after an emergency Cabinet meeting in Madrid said relations between the two countries would cease until Spain receives a clear and acceptable explanation of the police assault and the subsequent fire in which the ambassador, Señor Maximino Cajal, narrowly escaped death.

According to the Government, Señor Maximino Cajal, the Foreign Minister, telephoned the Guatemalan Foreign Minister soon after he learned of the occupation of the embassy by farmworkers and told him that Spain did not want the police to enter the embassy.

The official communiqué said that Señor Cajal had repeated the message to the Guatemalan Interior Minister and the director general of the police with the same message, and that he told police surrounding the embassy to go away and not to enter the building.

Guatemalan officials denied that police brutality led to the fire in the Spanish Embassy and said terrorists were responsible for the deaths.

A government sponsored broadcast called the deaths a "terrorist massacre."

The Government broadcast said that when the police arrived the Indians responded by throwing petrol bombs at them and setting a room on fire.—UPI.

# Rebuke from former US envoy

New York, Feb 1—Mr George Kennan, a former United States Ambassador to Moscow, said today that the Carter Administration had overreacted to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and created a dangerous war atmosphere.

Writing in *The New York Times*, Mr Kennan said: "We are now in the danger zone."

"I can think of no instance in modern history where such a breakdown in political communication and such a triumph of unrestrained military suspicions as now marks Soviet-American relations has not led, in the end, to armed conflict."

Referring to the Carter Administration's reaction to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Mr Kennan said: "The danger is heightened by the fact that we do not know, at this time, with whom we really have to deal with at the Soviet end."

"If there ever was a time for realism, prudence and restraint in American statesmanship, it is this one."

Mr Kennan said that Washington, with its open discussions of possible military responses, had created a war atmosphere in which anything could happen.

Mr Kennan, who as a State Department official and later as Ambassador to Moscow in the 1950s, helped to formulate the Truman Administration's policy of "containing" the Soviet Union, said the assumption Moscow was now interested in moving towards the Gulf was one made by the United States alone.

He said this assumption was a distortion of Soviet motives and had led to a "disquieting lack of balance" among American officials who were now considering military action with Iran.

"Never since World War Two has there been so far-reaching a militarization of thought and discourse in the capital," he said.

An unsuspecting stranger, plunged into its midst, could only conclude that the last hope of peaceful, non-military solutions had been exhausted—that from now on only weapons, however used, could count.—Reuter.

# Jail clash deaths

Dacca, Feb 1—Three

prisoners were killed when clashes broke out today inside Bangladesh's central jail, about 50 miles north west of Dhaka.

Fighting broke out after orders for the transfer of some prisoners to other centres in Bangladesh.

# Men held by police face Schild kidnap charges

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Feb 1

Nine men are to be charged in connexion with the kidnapping of Mr Rolf Schild, his wife, Daphne, and daughter, Annabel Maria, who were taken from their house at Porto Rafael, Sardinia, on August 21.

Mr Schild was released on September 5 and told to collect a large ransom for the two women. Since that time there have been many rumours, counter-rumours and denials.

The kidnappers were portrayed as unusually harsh in manner. They are said to have threatened to have cut off the ears of the women, to have maltreated Mr Schild's emissaries and to have torn up bank notes which he had sent them as a pledge of his intention to raise the ransom money.

The public prosecutor at Terracina today notified the men they would be charged

after a meeting with carabinieri officers.

Eight of the men were arrested on December 17 after a firefight in which two people were killed and a carabinieri captain was injured.

The two killed were fugitives from justice. One man, the ninth in the list today, managed to escape.

Kidnap ring: The eight men, between 18 and 39, are now in prison in Nuoro, in Sardinia, charged with criminal association and attempted murder in the gunfight.

The prosecuting attorney said he has evidence suggesting that they might be members of the kidnapping ring which abducted the Schild family and other wealthy residents of Sardinia. Recent unconfirmed reports said the two Schild women might have been "purchased" by another ring.—AP.

# Terrorists kill Fiat plant guard in Turin

From Our Own Correspondent, Rome, Feb 1

Terrorists who last night raided a factory belonging to a Fiat subsidiary outside Turin and shot a guard in the legs claim that the attack was the beginning of a "campaign of the Communist Terrorist Nuclei against Fiat." The guard was left to bleed to death.

The attackers set light to the infirmary but it seems that their objective had been the natural gas terminal.

# Mafia round-up

Catanzaro, Feb 1—Police

raided a Mafia hide-out today and arrested seven *Mafiosi* in the middle of a "business" meeting, police reported. They were said to be leaders of a vast network engaged in extortion and kidnapping in Calabria.—AP.

# Mrs Sakharov warned not to 'spread slander'

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, Feb 1

Mrs Yelena Sakharov, wife of the dissident leader, Dr Andrei Sakharov, told Western correspondents in Moscow today that she was ordered earlier this week by the Moscow state prosecutor's office to stop spreading slander or reading out statements by her husband, now banished to Gorkiy, 250 miles east of Moscow.

But Mrs Sakharov said that a summons she received from the prosecutor's office last night as she was about to leave for Gorkiy was not to order her to remain in Gorkiy, as she had feared, but was in response to her request for better conditions for her husband.

At a 90-minute meeting this morning with Mr Sergei Zakharov, a deputy prosecutor, Mrs Sakharov was told that his office was not competent to

deal with her requests for better "communication" in Gorkiy and she should apply to the authorities there.

Mrs Sakharov has written two letters asking for the telephone to be reconnected to the family flat in Moscow, for a telephone at their new Gorkiy flat, for the Sakharovs to be allowed to contact their children in the United States and for an exit visa for a family friend.

Dr Sakharov, aged 58, was sent into exile last week and is not allowed to send or receive any letters or telephone calls from abroad.

Mrs Sakharov revealed today that she had also been to the prosecutor's office on Wednesday, when she was warned to stop her dissident activities. She was told that this included meeting Western correspond-

ents and reading out statements by her husband.

On Monday she read out a defiant statement from Dr Sakharov rejecting charges made against him in the Soviet press that he had revealed nuclear secrets, and saying he was willing to stand public trial.

Mrs Sakharov briefly met Western correspondents at her family flat after returning from the prosecutor's office today. She said she was very tired and was planning to return to Gorkiy for the weekend.

Mrs Sakharov, a vigorous and uncompromising dissident activist, was allowed to accompany Dr Sakharov when he was sent to Gorkiy last week, but no restrictions were placed on her movements.

This morning the wife and family of Mr Alexander Ginzburg, one of the five imprisoned dissidents exchanged last April

for two convicted Soviet spies by her husband, left Moscow for Paris to join her husband.

Mrs Irina Ginzburg was accompanied by her two young children, Alexander and Alexei, and her 72-year-old mother-in-law.

Mrs Ginzburg refused to leave the country earlier because she wanted Mr Sergei Shibaev, a 19-year-old youth she and her husband had unofficially adopted several years ago, to accompany them to America.

The Soviet authorities, however, said that the youth had not been legally adopted and did not form part of their family. Mr Shibaev was called up for military service last year, which made it virtually certain that he would not be allowed to leave the country for at least seven years.



## OVERSEAS

## Palestinian autonomy talks gather momentum

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv, Feb 1

Much needed momentum has been given to the flagging Middle East peace process by a sudden narrowing of the wide gap between Israeli and Egyptian plans for the type of self-rule to be offered to more than a million Arabs in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The eighth and most crucial round of ministerial talks on the autonomy issue ended here today with reports of progress from all sides. At the insistence of Mr. Mustapha Khalil, the Egyptian Prime Minister, no details of the extent of agreement on the powers to be given to the projected autonomy council are to be made public at this stage.

Although significant differences between the Israeli notion of a strictly administrative Palestinian body and the Egyptian plan for a legislative council still exist, both sides have agreed to accelerate the pace of negotiations in an effort to reach agreement by May 26, the target date set down at Camp David last month.

As a result, Mr. Sol Linowitz, President Carter's special envoy to the Middle East, will return to the region later this month for another round of autonomy talks. The Egyptian government has agreed to set up a new working group to discuss economic aspects of the autonomy proposal.

Since the talks began here on Wednesday night, Mr. Linowitz has quickly succeeded in defusing the atmosphere of crisis which surrounded the autonomy issue. This has been the result of Israel and Egypt presenting diametrically opposed autonomy models at meetings in Cairo and Tel Aviv last month.

Maintaining the optimism which has become the hallmark of his negotiating style, a smiling Mr. Linowitz said today that "very significant progress" had been reached in these negotiations. Differences were bridged and "substantial understanding was reached in respect of a number of issues".

Mr. Linowitz criticized a reporter who voiced scepticism because none of the negotiators would reveal the importance of those subjects on which understanding has been achieved. Later officials confirmed that it concerned matters of substance.

The communiqué was more cautious, it said that "during intensive discussions tentative understanding was reached among the parties on a number of issues".

At a plenary session of the talks this morning, both Mr. Khalil and Dr. Joseph Burg, the chief Israeli negotiator, agreed that progress had been made. Later it was learned that most of the concessions had been made by the Egyptian side.

It is still considered unlikely that agreement will be reached by May 26, but Mr. Linowitz has smoothed the way for the deadline to be extended if talks are still progressing satisfactorily. His success in bringing both sides to accelerate the negotiating process after three months spent mostly in dealing with fringe matters.

It is understood that the issues on which differences are still unresolved include the future status of east Jerusalem and its 200,000 Palestinian inhabitants; whether the Palestinian council should be granted any legislative power; and the future of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

No ministerial talks have yet begun on the related problem of what is to be done if the creation of an autonomy council is eventually agreed between Egypt and Israel and then turned down by the Palestinians.

Commenting on this embarrassing issue Mr. Khalil said: "We can never impose anything on the Palestinians. We are not speaking for the Palestinians, we are finding a way for them. If they refuse to take it, after that, it is up to them."

Tonight, Mr. Linowitz and his team of American officials flew on to Saudi Arabia. Curfew protest: A synagogue was stoned by Arab youths and looted in the streets of Be'er on the occupied West Bank today in protest against a curfew imposed on the town's cashiers after an official Israeli soldier was shot dead last night.

The killing provoked demands for revenge by militant Israelis.—Reuter.

## Former prisoners tell of beatings and electric shocks delivered by plainclothes police

## Torture in Mexico 'by hit-squad'

From Stephen Dawner, Mexico City, Feb 1

A young widow sat on a stage before an audience of 1,000 people in Mexico City and told them that police had murdered her husband.

Señora Laura Gaytan, aged 22, also claimed that after her husband's death last April in the northern state of Coahuila she was tortured, physically and mentally.

"One day an agent came into my cell wearing my dead husband's boots. He stuck them under my nose and asked me if I knew who they belonged to."

The woman, worse than any physical torture, she shouted, as silence settled over the packed auditorium at Mexico City's National Autonomous University.

Señora Gaytan was one of three women and four men on the platform who alleged that beatings, forcing prisoners to eat human excrement and the application of electric shocks took place in clandestine prisons all over Mexico.

They said that the torturers usually belonged to the "White Brigade", said to be a "hit squad" of non-official policemen which was formed in 1977.

Some of the seven, Señora Gaytan among them, admitted connections with left-wing extremist groups. Pedro Cusián Olvera, aged 37, claimed

to have been a member of the People's Armed Revolutionary Forces, known by its Spanish initials as Frap, when he was arrested in October, 1974.

Rida Nevares told the audience she had been trained in guerrilla warfare in North Korea. Armando Gaytan, Señora Gaytan's brother, said he belonged to the Revolutionary Army of the People (Mar).

The seven, all just released from prison, denounced the cruel methods they claimed the Mexican Government was using to eradicate extreme left-wing opposition, or those suspected of being connected with it, and pleaded their support for a national committee formed to defend political prisoners, fugitives, exiles and missing people.

Over the past few months the committee, founded in April, 1977, has gained strength. It has joined forces with different human rights groups, all pressing the Government to explain the whereabouts of at least 471 people arrested since 1974.

Señora Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, a 52-year-old doctor's wife from Monterrey in northern Mexico, helped form the committee after spending two years searching for her missing son, Jesus.

She said he was kidnapped in Monterrey in 1975 when he was 21 and that the police for his abduction. She

had taken two years instead of just a few months that its complaint should be published in an election year.

He emphasised time and again that Textron has not confirmed or denied the charges made by the SEC and that he has merely signed a consent decree, settling its dispute with the Government, in which it promises not to make future bribes.

At one point Mr. Miller said of the SEC accusations that "these are not facts, these are just allegations". He later said: "These are not findings, these are allegations and they are not against me, but against the company."

The first indications of Textron bribery were revealed during Mr. Miller's confirmation hearings for public office in 1978 before the Senate Banking Committee. At the time, Mr. Miller said that he had no knowledge of bribery by Textron and deeply opposed bribery.

Today, he said that those who made bribes had sought "to obscure their dealings, that he had not been told about them and that the situation was like that in a bank, where it would be surprising if the president knew that a teller was embezzling money."

Mr. Miller denied today that Textron maintained a "status fund" to hide expenses used in entertaining Defence Department officials. He said that such expenses never exceeded \$100 per official and that he could not judge the accuracy of the SEC's assertion that such expenses totalled \$600,000.

Senator William Proxmire, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, suggested that the integrity of the SEC is so great that its complaint against Mr. Miller is "most grave" for Mr. Miller. He said that "Watergate was a cover-up and this appears to be a cover-up," adding that his committee will decide within the next few days whether or not to open hearings into the affair.

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## US Treasury chief 'will not resign'

From Frank Vogel, Washington, Feb 1

Mr. William Miller, the Secretary of the Treasury, declared today that he did not intend to resign. He remarked in regard to allegations that he was aware of questionable dealings by the company he once headed that "these are not serious charges".

A cloud hangs over Mr. Miller's political future as a corporate bribery scandal threatens to make him a political liability to President Carter in this election year.

Yesterday, the Securities and Exchange Commission alleged in court that Textron Inc., the company headed by Mr. Miller before he joined the Government in 1978, had paid bribes of \$5.4m (£2.5m) in the 1970s, that it had issued "misleading statements" to Congress and to its shareholders, and that Mr. Miller knew that the company had spent \$500,000 on an enterprise to make him a political liability.

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## Law Report February 1 1980

## Steel injunction contrary to Lords decision

Duport Steels Ltd and Others v Sirs and Others

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Keith of Kinkaid and Lord Scarman

The House of Lords allowed an interlocutory appeal by officers of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and discharged an injunction granted by the Court of Appeal.

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29 of the 1971 Act, as amended. It did not matter whether there were other matters with which the dispute was connected. It came within section 2(1) to (6).

But in the course of the Court of Appeal hearing the issue arose whether a dispute with the government would be a trade dispute, once the workers concerned were not employed by the government.

Counsel referred their Lordships to the letter from Mr. Sirs to the union, in television interviews with him, and to articles in The Times on the steel dispute, in all of which it was said that the dispute was developing into a confrontation between the union and the government.

Lord Edmund-Davies: I am reluctant to have these editorial views as distinct from what Mr. Sirs said.

Mr. Melville Williams read an affidavit on behalf of the plaintiffs by Mr. A. H. Morrison, Director of the British Independent Steel Producers Association, saying that its effect was that the dispute with BSC had stopped and was changed to a separate dispute with the government. There was also an affidavit by the defendant, Mr. Bramley, which included statements that the union had had many requests from unions abroad asking how they could distinguish between "black" and "non-black" steel, that when the whole industry was on strike it would help BSC to increase its output, that while BSC remained a wholly-owned subsidiary of the government, pressure must be put on the government to release its hold on BSC, and that the dispute was a public one; and that the government was a political body, and its purpose was to put pressure on the government.

Lord Fraser: Are we concerned with stripping the movement of steel imports from abroad?

Counsel: Not really. There was no dispute about that. The position about picking before this strike was somewhat blurred. The Master of the Rolls in his judgment had emphasised that the private sector unions did not want to come out on strike, but that in any event the evidence was not clear cut on that issue. Everyone came out on strike, at least the union regarded it as a last resort. There was a difference between reluctance to strike and recognition that it might be justifiable.

The Master of the Rolls, in referring to the House of Lords decision in the Express Newspapers case, said that the union was not nearly so clear on the issue of whether an act done in contemplation of a trade dispute was a trade dispute. Counsel submitted that the Master of the Rolls was not clear on that issue. Everyone came out on strike, at least the union regarded it as a last resort. There was a difference between reluctance to strike and recognition that it might be justifiable.

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Lord Fraser: Are we







## Paperbacks of the month

مكتبات الأصيل

## Master's voice

P. G. WODEHOUSE: *Company for Henry: A Pelican at Blandings* (Penguin, 95p and £1.25).

Penguin have recently been storing up riches for themselves in the hereafter (and probably not doing their immediate finances any harm) by reissuing Wodehouse in paperback at the rate of one a month. Here are two country-house sagas from the late nineteenth century, neither of them first-growth but both studied with vintage moments.

*Company for Henry* opens unpromisingly. There's nothing wrong with the situation: actor unexpectedly inherits architecturally ruinous mansion which he hopes to sell to rich American relative. The early locations—Sussex and Valley Fields (Dulwich)—and minor characters—jolly slip-of-a-face encumbered with westerly brooder and woe fiancé—also bode well. But Wodehouse is obviously bored with the unwilling man of property before the story begins, so the early writing is flat, the humour forced, and the reader lowers his expectations, reluctantly accepting that even

the best of us have off-days. O ye of little faith! "And now the minstrel, tuning his harp, prepares to sing of J. Wendell Slickney". At these, the opening words of Chapter 3, the experienced Wodehouse's heart leaps, recognizing instantly that The Master has tipped through the gears from first to top. As so often, the transformation is signalled by a change of scene to New York where the eventual acutest of machinery is preparing for his trip to England, accompanied by a delinquent aunt (a rarity in the Wodehouse canon of aunts) and a disapproving valet.

Things hot up at Ashby Parade on their arrival, and the company is soon reinforced by a brace of impostors, a temporary butler suffering from terminal depression ("But Mr Slickney, if there were no marriages, what would become of posterity?"), "I see no need for posterity," Mr Clarkson", and an appalling stock-broker, described as the sort of man who calls you "laddie" and begs to stop him if you've heard this one, well knowing that nobody within the memory of man has ever stopped him telling a story.

Rural life has its usual hazards. Eighteenth century

paper-weights get stolen (though with their owner's consent), marauders prowl in the moonlight, vicars organize school-treats, and there is an engaging oddity in the shape of a bailiff with a pathological urge to propose to cooks whenever the conversation flags.

An objective critic would doubtless point to similarities in the plotting of *Henry and A Pelican at Blandings*. In the latter, it is a picture which needs to be stolen, the Amurri can visitors are not quite what they seem, and impostors come, are exposed, and go only to return in yet more unlikely guises, with bewildering rapidity. The Empress refuses a potato, the Duke of Dunsable is thwarted from marrying above himself and from having Emsworth committed, and the course of true love is temporarily deflected by legal complications. The book opens with a rare glimpse of Clarence's idea of heaven—Blandings without secretaries or sisters where a man can dine off leg of lamb and rump-steak pudding in the library without changing out of his shooting-jacket—and ends with Gally fixing things to everybody's well, almost everybody's satisfaction.

John Nicholson

## Fresh as first love

EDNA O'BRIEN: *The Country Girls: Girl with Green Eyes: Mrs Reinhardt and other stories* (Penguin, 95p each).

*The Country Girls* was the first novel Edna O'Brien wrote and it is now 20 years since the day it appeared. It has been reprinted again and again, rightly so, since the artlessness of her style and the awkward charm of her heroines are not the kind of things that are diminished by fashion or time. Both *The Country Girls* and its sequel, *Girl with Green Eyes* are about the eternally interesting subject of growing up, what is more growing up poor, alone, in Ireland, and in the fifties, a time well suited to Edna O'Brien's recurring theme that the world we live in is a world run by men for other men.

Caitlín and Baba are two childhood friends in a small Irish village, but while Caitlín, gauche Caitlín has a father who drinks and a mother she loves and who is drowned, delicate Baba is spoiled, tyrannical and the daughter of a well-respected local vet. Out of this unbalance comes a friendship of sorts, that grows more even as the girls leave the safety of their village for

the horrors of convent life, and later the chancy encounters of a bed sifter and big time life in Dublin. It is not simply that these two books give a picture of adolescent love that avoids sentimentality and cliché by their freshness and fluency, but their best, they have it all, the anguish and the comedy, even the dry despair of a Jean Rhys afternoon in the bleakness of a London hotel room.

It is often said of Edna O'Brien that her heroine never changes. Caitlín does indeed grow up; she becomes, in successive novels and under other names, more sophisticated, more sophisticated, more sophisticated. But she is always the same woman, and like Caitlín, she believes that the only thing that really counts for a woman in the world is love, and that no man can either love or understand what it is all about, nor do much else than wreak emotional havoc. Indeed her male characters are rarely anything but drunken, cowardly or dictatorial. There is a premonition of this in *The Country Girls*; the film maker with the foreign voice who seduces Caitlín is, for all his niceness, a betrayer. He is too insensitive, too careless of her emotions.

Reissued now with her first two books is a collection of Edna O'Brien's recent short stories, *Mrs Reinhardt and other stories*, most of them reprinted from the *New Yorker*, and bearing the mark of that

magazine's discipline. Whether because of this or because Miss O'Brien has become more economical in her writing, there is in these stories something of a return to the early O'Brien, a wit and a vulnerability in the way the women, now older, view their own failure in the field where it mattered: love. The slightly earthy humour of *The Country Girls* is sadly not there, but neither is the insistence on lyricism and occasional curtness that plagued some of the fiction that has come in between. It is no longer funny, to laugh aloud; but the writing flows, with authority.

It is, these stories seem to say, a hard world for women, just as hard as Baba and Caitlín thought it would be; harder, perhaps. Marriages are never what they might have been; happiness and fulfillment, that might have flowed, have not; and the comedy that went with youth has become, quite simply, too expensive. At best, all a woman can hope for is a tentative belief in the chances of her own survival. As Elmer Mulally, a woman disappointed both in her boorish husband and fickle lover puts it at the end of *A Woman by the Sea-side*: "She felt a strange peace as if she had found a new resource in herself and she prayed to God that it was not a passing thing and that on the morrow it would be there."

Caroline Moorehead

## The golden road

A Time of Gifts, by Patrick Leigh Fermor (Penguin, £1.25).

"He is a dangerous mixture of sophistication and recklessness," said one of his school reports, unhelpfully, adding "which makes one anxious about his influence on other boys." What on earth was one to do with the lad? Intelligent, lively, perfectly capable of hard work when he was inclined, one never knew what he was going to do next.

Expelled at 16 from the King's School, Canterbury, and on his way to the Army via a London crammer, he was always the young man who was unpredictable (diving into a lake at a party and then remembering his borrowed tails) and then deciding that he would walk to Constantinople.

Setting out in the winter with a rucksack, old Army greatcoat, several jerseys, two white shirts and several flannel ones, a sleeping bag, *The Oxford Book of English Verse* and Volume 1 of the Loeb Horace, he took a boat for Holland and was off on a journey which was to last him, though he did not know it, for four years.

He had a few introductions,

but relied on sleeping in cowsheds, haylofts, barns, and on one memorable occasion in an apothecary, practically swooning from the scent. He also slept in castles, between linen sheets, with the smell of lavender and the faintest of candles. At one frightful flophouse his precious journal and everything else, apart from what he was wearing, was stolen. The weather was awful, but he was only 18, and everything was wonderful.

The book is a reconstruction, more than forty years later, of this trip, laced with recollections of other times past, the landscape viewed not only with his later literary associations, but also from the youthful Leigh Fermor's knowledge of painting. Holland was instantly friendly and familiar from long acquaintance with the Dutch masters. German painters, entirely new to him, were discovered with joy. He took enormous detours to view some local landmarks of the art. He managed at this on precisely no money at all—a modest £4 being forwarded to him at monthly intervals at a selected spot. In Vienna the money ran out altogether, and in company with the adorable Konrad, a gentle character and con man (later in a tramp's hostel) he set about sketching the inhabitants for a small sum, and was saved by a cheque for £5 from his father, a belated 19th birthday present.

He must have been a most engaging young man. All the way from Holland to Hungary he met kindness, interest, and hospitality, sometimes from the very poor, and on one rather horrible occasion from a fanatical working class Nazi whose room was decorated from top to bottom with pictures of Hitler and Nazi emblems, his SS uniform hanging on the wall. There was a young man to his journey. In 1934 most of his new found friends were liberally minded, but he could see the rise of the Nazis, and their attraction. The portrait of the people he met was the best of a marvellously personal book—there are passages of lyrical appreciation of the countryside in wonderful shades of purple prose, and the whole conveys a youthful enthusiasm and joie de vivre.

By some strange chance he recovered one of his journals, for the last part of the journey to Hungary, where he leaves him poised with the magic words "To be continued." It may not have been good preparation for the peace-time British Army, which he never joined, but it certainly seems tailor-made for the young man who, with others, kidnapped the German General Kreipe commanding Crete in 1944 and smuggled him off the island.

Philippa Toomey

exhort the consumer to conserve, is undimmed, but his concern with the question of control of the multinational looks less and less important.

I am far from sure that Western governments faced in 1979, as he says "a growing nightmare of uncontrolled corporate power." The multinationals' passive support of peace, which he claims so well has done them no good at all. The cutbacks in Iran and aggressive buying by a panic-stricken Japan have pushed Opec from the multinationals to independents, and all increased number of government to government deals. If governments wish to take control of their own supplies, increasingly they have the opportunity to do so. The multinationals are not so much leading the public into further into hapless dependence on oil as desperately searching for access to it at any price to preserve their market share. The power of the multinationals is on the slide. The real change of the 1979 energy crisis has been the lessening of the companies' role as international traders and the emergence of the producing countries as traders in their own right.

But whatever the defects of Mr Sampson's updating *The Seven Sisters* as a whole still deserves the accolade given by another reviewer in this paper, five years ago.

Nicholas Hirst

## In the pipeline

The Seven Sisters by Anthony Sampson (Coronet Books/Hodder and Stoughton, £1.50).

Such acclaim greeted the first publication of Anthony Sampson's work on oil multinationals that a chance of new assessment five years later of an updated paperback edition necessarily causes some trepidation. The Times, according to the back cover, believed the book to provide "the highest level of reading for those interested in the politics of oil." Much crude has flowed through the pipeline since then. The early chapters have stood the test of time well. The slightly racy style, with the descriptions of Arabs, Texans, oil tycoons, and diplomats; the contrast of the hard American oil men with the Oxbridge-educated types at Shell, remains compelling reading. Mr Sampson has an exciting story of big business, intrigue, and international politics to tell, and he tells it well. On that level alone he gives a good read, but the updating by a single, rather short chapter, covering the lead up to the crisis in Iran and the subsequent plunging of the West into a second energy crisis, is less satisfactory than the full revision which is rather obviously needed.

Front teeth of a 1937 Ford from "American Grilles" by Pratoilillo and Salmieri, published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, £4.95.

Soft covers on a book tend to give the expectation without the reality of immediacy. By simply tagging on a chapter, Mr Sampson has been unable to relate the events since Iran to the arguments of the earlier chapters. His perception of the ambiguity of the multinationals' position, interested at one and the same time in short term trading profits and long term projects, of selling a product which at the same time they



Pegasus taking off from "Inventorum Natura", the remarkable expedition journal of Pliny the Elder alleged to have been discovered in Somerset. Equo similis erat, sed pinnis vespertilionis, cornibus cervi. Drawn by Una Woodruff, published by Paper Tiger. The natives hereabouts call these animals the Pegasi. Little is known of their habits, as they inhabit inaccessible heights of the mountains and are rarely seen.

## Young man's dream

Paris Peasant, by Louis Aragon. Translated with an introduction by Simon Watson Taylor (Picador, £1.50).

"Here, surrealism resumes all its rights," wrote the 26-year-old poet Louis Aragon sitting down at one of the ancient wicker-work chairs of the ex-Dadaist Café Certe (Paris) on a cocktail Oscar, 3 frs; un Kiss Me Quick, 3.50 frs; un Dada Special, 4 frs). They give you a glass inkwell with a champagne cork for a stopper, and you are away! Images, images everywhere. And here, if anywhere, Aragon seems to have composed most of *Le Peasant de Paris* in 1924-5, which is credited as the first surrealist novel, a prose extravaganza inspired by his wide-eyed wanderings through the forgotten quarters of the post-war city in a long tradition of earlier literary wanderings—from Nerval of the *October Nights*, Baudelaire of *Paris Spleen*, and the then freshly disinterested Comte de Lautréamont.

In fact the two main parts of the text are based on fairly solid journalistic formulas: the first is a bit of detailed reportage on the shopkeepers and habits of a small place covered side street in the Eighth, scheduled for demolition and urban renewal (plus ça change),

the Passage de l'Opéra, with its seedy lodging houses, pungent hairdressers, cafes, shoeblacks, pipe makers, strip theatres, bookshops, and obliging Massage Mine Jehane, a wonderful evocation of *la vie entre les pils*, or life between the wrinkles. The second is a rather wilder account of an evening promenade with fellow surrealist André Breton through the Buttes-Chaumont, a park in the working class 19th arrondissement, with its artificial lake, and sulphurous gaslamps, and notorious Bridge of Sighs. Both articles were originally serialized in monthly parts in the *Revue Européenne* (and are still best taken in small fixes), abruptly terminating with an outraged Letter to the Editor, which was of course written by Aragon himself.

Both *le passage* and *le parc* are also symbolic places, or mental dream theatres, with drawn from the logical, mundane life of the grand boulevard. They are places where "objects become transfigured" and the "locks guarding the secrets of the universe" may suddenly turn, and every day people and occurrences may open inwardly into the miraculous, the irrational, and the poetic, so that the "mythology of the modern" is revealed. So Aragon tells us—and occasionally shows us too, though there is little evidence of the celebrated *écriture automatique* of the other surrealists, Aragon's style moves through

a dazzling range of mannerisms: at one moment simply transcribing verbatim the weird language of menu cards, fly posters, newspaper clippings, or municipal inscriptions; at the next vividly recounting conversations, anecdotes, or strange encounters (there is a memorable visit to the subterranean *Bugnes Publiques*, with its chimney-box construction of dark, clammy intercommunicating cubicles, full of ambiguous steamy possibilities). At its most extreme, he rises to dizzy flights of Hegelian philosophizing or plunges luxuriously into pulpy paragraphs of imaginary womanizing: the latter being characteristically full of blonde butterfly wings, black cyclamens, bold, stardust, stockings, and perfumes—a sort of verbal Gustav Klimt.

Years later, after his sad break with Breton and his conversion to Communism, Louis Aragon gravely described *Paris Peasant* as the story of his mental evolution from a "mythological conception of the world to a materialist one." Don't believe a word of it. It is one more young man's dream of what Paris was going to give him before the age of thirty: Eugene de Rastignac would have recognised it just as easily as young Aragon's exact American contemporary, Jay Gatsby. I think the translator liked it too, though I am still wondering what "headache pencils" are.

Richard Holmes

## Black man's burden

The African Condition (The Reith Lectures) by Ali A. Mazrui. (Heinemann, £2.95).

After a succinct but penetrating analysis of the problems and frustrations of the people of a continent containing 50 sovereign states, five colonial lingua franca and cultures, three rival religions, 500 vernaculars, two rival ideologies, one major and several minor racial conflicts with a race war in prospect, a congeries of critical divisions, and all complicated by technical and social "backwardness", Professor Ali Mazrui argues that what Africa needs is some atomic bombs. Nigeria has the oil wealth to spend on them; Zaïre has the uranium to fuel them; and South Africa has the resources to construct them and delivery systems for them—and the coming revolution will place these resources in black power. Then "Africa" will be in position to order the nuclear powers to disarm, instead of "planning" to lay waste the world.

A few other things, the Professor told the Reith lecture audiences, were necessary to give Africa the place in the councils of mankind which is its due. The standard of living of the industrial and extravagant westerners has to be reduced so that Africa's (and the Third World's) will go up. The treatment here is a little complicated. First the West is to be encouraged to be even more extravagant and wasteful of scarce resources so that Africa and other raw material

suppliers can improve their terms of trade under pressure of western demand, just as OPEC, whose success the Professor hails as the forerunner of tables to be turned on the West in time to come, is squeezing the gas-sucklers of America and the EEC (And OPEC's aid in Africa is apparently free of the strings or chains which neo-colonial aid entails). British trade union leaders, determined to "maintain our members' standard of living" as they say, are recommended to read pp. 114-115 of this book.

The Professor shares Kwame Nkrumah's dream of an Africa unified (somehow) and powerful, its humiliations ended and reversed. (It is now apparently respectable scholarship to attribute to continents, states and masses of diverse people the personal feelings of individuals who read history with indignation or suffer slights from hoteliers.)

Professor Mazrui takes full advantage of "Africa's" one incontestable advantage: attribute almost every shortcoming or misfortune to the colonial ordeal of 1880 onwards (plus the slave trade—white, not Arab). This short, interlarded book is decisive in African apologetics as does no other colonial experience elsewhere. Why so crippling, so baleful? Others have survived such experiences, even digested them as acceptable nutrition. Can it be that some of the present discontents of Africa and its intellectuals derive from the 2,000 years of "history" antedating the European slave and colonial trade? This short, interlarded book is decisive in African apologetics as does no other colonial experience elsewhere. Why so crippling, so baleful? Others have survived such experiences, even digested them as acceptable nutrition. Can it be that some of the present discontents of Africa and its intellectuals derive from the 2,000 years of "history" antedating the European slave and colonial trade? 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## PERSONAL CHOICE

Christopher Timothy who plays James Herriot in *All Creatures Great and Small* (BBC 1, 7.10).

There is no good reason why the action of Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People* (BBC 2, 9.25) should not have been shifted from a coastal town in Norway to a coastal town in Scotland, or why the action should not have been plucked out of the 19th century and dropped into the 20th. Pollution is pollution, small-town corruption is small-town corruption, and polemics are polemics. And I doubt very much if, in the crossing of the North Sea, the play will have suffered the loss of any of its intrinsic qualities. For the record, tonight's production has been adapted by Maggie Allen from Lindsay Galloway's stage version.

Just like snooker and chess, darts should have been invented especially for television. In the small screen's coverage of these indoor sports, the close-up comes into its own—the tense hand, the gleaming eye, the dampness on the brow, the aborted grin, the gnawed lip. This is man under pressure, without artifice. To the various rounds of Pot Black and the Benson and Hedges Masters snooker tournaments and the Master Game chess encounters which are all well under way on BBC TV, we must now add the Embassy World Professional Darts Championship which begins tonight (BBC 2, 10.55) and ends next Saturday night with the grand finale.

Heartland is an off-pitting umbrella title for the series of Saturday night plays from ATV. I assume it is just another way of saying love stories, a supposed home out by the synopses of previous episodes, all of which I have missed. Title apart, I keep being assured by intelligent colleagues that the plays are a notch or two or five above average and so I will watch tonight's play, *Family*, by Alan Hackney, which is about a relentless millionaire (Malcolm Stoddard) who fixes his greedy eyes on the twin targets of a pottery business and the boss's (his brother's) pretty personal assistant (Carol Royle). It must be better than I have made it sound (ITV, 10.00).

Ken Whitmore's play *A Decent British Murder* (Radio 4, 8.30) should be fun: colonel (Graham Roberts) throws a Christmas house party, offers £1,000 to anyone who can break into his burglar-proof library (complete with guillotine security device) and is subsequently found foully murdered in the aforementioned library. . . . Fretful children, bored with their latest, overplayed pop record, should be encouraged to switch on the radio, ignore Radio 1 for once, tune in to a service they may never have heard of—Radio 3—and listen to the Robert Mayer Concert coming live from the Royal Festival Hall (11.00 am). If they do not enjoy the *Carnival of Animals*, you should perhaps consult a child psychiatrist. They might even enjoy the bits of Schubert, Bartok and Janacek. It is worth a try. . . .

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

7.40 am Open University (accident investigation). Close down at 8.05.  
8.05 *Better Beamin'*: Playing mixed doubles (r).  
9.30 Multi-Coloured Swap Shop: Noel Edmonds' guests are Dick Emery, the comedian, and the naturalist Sir Peter Scott. With songs from the Boomtown Rats.  
12.12 pm Weather.

12.15 *Grassland*: The line-up is: 12.30 Football Focus: 12.05, 1.02 and 1.50 Racing from Wetherby; 1.10 Show Jumping—the Lancashire Championships, from Northwood; 1.40 and 4.35 International Athletics: Great Britain v West Germany; 2.10 Cricket: Australia v England; the third Test, from Melbourne; 2.25 International Rugby Union: France v England, from Paris and (at 4.00) Ireland v Scotland, from Dublin; 4.45 Final Score.

## BBC 2

11.40 am Open University: Count-down to 10.10. Close down at 12.30.  
1.02 Film: *Beau Brummell* (1954). British-made costume romance about the dandy who became the Prince Regent's favourite. Stewart Granger plays Brummell, Peter Ustinov is the Prince, Elizabeth Taylor is Lady Patricia and Robert Morley is George III. Pretty but dull.  
3.55 Play Away: Fun and songs for young viewers.  
4.30 Film: *Miles Pym*: Portrait of a young man, the novelist, who died last month. Originally seen in the Book Programme in 1977 (r).  
4.45 *Horizon*: The Mind's Eye. Repeat showing of the documentary which explains the secrets of vision.

5.45 *Mr Smith's Indoor Garden*: Geoffrey Smith on how to grow plants from seeds and tips for the unemployed.  
6.10 Open Door: The work of the Newcastle Trades Council Centre for the Unemployed.  
6.40 Cricket: Australia v England. Highlights from the third Test. From Melbourne.  
7.10 News and sport.

7.25 Top Table: Eight leading table tennis players compete for the Norwich Union Trophy. They include former European champion Milan Orlovski and the present champion Gabor Gerzely.  
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12.30 pm World of Sport. The line-up is: 12.35 On the Ball (football round-up); 1.00 Cycle Cross World Championships, from Switzerland; 1.15 News; 1.30, 2.00, 2.30 and 3.00 Racing from Sandown; 3.45, 3.55, 4.25 Racing from Sandown; 4.45 and 5.15 Rally and Cliff Diving (from Acapulco); 5.30 Half-time scores; 4.00 Wrestling (from Reading); 4.50 Results (from Reading).

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## ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**  
Conductor: **WALTER WELLER**  
Programme includes:  
**MOZART** Violin Concerto No. 4, K. 218  
**MAYUMI FUJIKAWA** violin  
**HOLST** Suite, The Planets  
See RFI panel for details

**LONDON MOZART PLAYERS**  
Conductor: **HARRY BLECH**  
Programme includes:  
**MOZART**: Piano Concerto No. 27 in G  
**BEETHOVEN**: Piano Concerto No. 3 in E flat  
**PETER FRANKL** piano  
£1.50, £1.80, £2.50, £3.50, £4.50 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**Philharmonia Orchestra**  
**RICCARDO MUTI** conducts  
Sunday, 10 February at 7.30  
Programme includes:  
**Salvatore Accardo** piano  
**Salvatore Accardo** piano  
£3.00, £3.70, £4.40, £5.20 (ALL OTHERS SOLD) from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents  
Thursday, 14 February at 8  
Programme includes:  
**Carl Pini** piano  
£4.50, £5.50, £6.50 (ALL OTHERS SOLD) from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
(Principal Conductor: Claudio Abbado)  
**EDUARDO MATA**  
TUESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY at 8 p.m.  
**JOHN WILLIAMS**  
Programme includes:  
**Ravel**: Alborada del Gracioso  
**Rodrigue**: Concerto de Aranjuez  
**Shostakovich**: Symphony No. 7  
£4.50, £5.50, £6.50 (ALL OTHERS SOLD) from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**BRUNO-LEONARDO GELBER**  
Programme includes:  
**Glenn Gould**: Overture, Russian and Ludmilla  
**Rachmaninov**: Piano Concerto No. 3  
**Dvorak**: Symphony No. 7  
£4.50, £5.50, £6.50 (ALL OTHERS SOLD) from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**DOKTOR FAUST**  
Busoni  
"Doktor Faust is the greatest opera since Parsifal", Edward Saville West.

**MICHAEL GIELEN**  
**BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
Cast includes: JANIS MARTIN, THOMAS HERNDON, PHILIP LANGRIDGE, BARRY MORA, GUNTER REICH, DAVID WILSON-JOHNSON, BBC SINGERS  
£1.40, £2.10, £2.70, £3.40, £4.10 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**Mendelssohn: Ov. "The Hebrides"**  
**Handel: Water Music Suite**  
**Grieg: Piano Concerto**  
**Beethoven: Symphony No. 5**  
Conductor: **HENRY KRIPS, MALCOLM BINNS** piano  
£1.75, £2.50, £3.25, £4.00, £4.75 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**DANIEL BARENBOIM**  
Great Masterpieces of the Keyboard  
**LISZT**  
Années de Pèlerinage Première Année: Suisse  
Sonata in E minor  
SUNDAY, 17 FEBRUARY at 3.15 p.m.  
£1.25, £1.75, £2.50, £3.25, £4.00, £4.75 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents  
FRIDAY, 22 FEBRUARY at 8 p.m.  
**LOUGHAN** conducts  
**SHOSTAKOVICH**  
**HALL ORCHESTRA**  
**JOAQUIN ACUARRO**  
Programme includes:  
**Rachmaninov**: Overture, Prince Igor  
**Shostakovich**: Piano Concerto No. 1  
£1.40, £2.10, £2.70, £3.40, £4.10, £4.75 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**Mendelssohn VIOLIN CONCERTO in E minor**  
**GYORGY PAUK** violin  
**Fauré REQUIEM**  
Conductor: **RICHARD HICKOX**  
£4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**ALICIA DE LARROCHA**  
**ALBENZ: Suite IBERIA (complete)**  
£1.00, £2.00, £3.00, £4.00, £5.00 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**Beethoven: MISSA SOLEMNIS**  
Annabelle Bernard Kenneth Rigel  
Elizabeth Connell Maries Rindler  
Beethoven's Heiligenstadt Testament  
read by **PETER USTINOV**  
**PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA** and **CHORUS**  
Conductor: **LORIN MAZEL**  
£7.50, £9.50, £11.50, £13.50 from Hall (01-928 3191) & Agents

**JULIAN LLOYD WEBBER**  
and **YITKIN SEOW**  
play music by Debussy, Britten and Rachmaninov  
Tickets: £1.00, £1.50, £2.00, £2.50, £3.00 from Royal Festival Hall Box Office.

## QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

**AMADEUS QUARTET**  
with **MALCOLM BINNS** piano  
Quartet in D, K. 499 (Hofmeister): Mozart  
Quartet in A, Op. 41 No. 3: Schumann  
Piano Quintet in E flat, Op. 44: Schumann  
£1.50, £2.25, £3.00, £3.75, £4.50 from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**  
**GEORGE MALCOLM** conductor  
**ANDRAS SCHIFF** **JOSE-LUIS GARCIA** **NEIL BLACK**  
piano  
BACH PROGRAMME  
For details see South Bank panel

**CHRISTIANE EDINGER**  
GERHARD FUCHT piano  
SCHUBERT: Sonata in A, Op. 162  
BACH: Solo Sonata in C, BWV 1005  
WEBER: Four Pieces, Op. 7  
PROKOFIEV: Sonata No. 2 in D, Op. 94  
£1.50, £2.25, £3.00, £3.75, £4.50 from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

**MAURICE HASSON, violin**  
**IAN BROWN, piano**  
MOZART: Sonata No. 8 in C, K. 26  
BACH: Sonata No. 1 in G minor for solo violin, BWV 1001  
BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 5, Op. 30 No. 3  
FAURÉ: Sonata No. 2, Op. 13  
£1.50, £2.25, £3.00, £3.75, £4.50 from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

**YMSO Chamber Orchestra**  
BACH: Violin Concerto No. 2, BWV 1042  
RAVEL: Violin Sonata in F  
SCHUBERT: Quartet in A, Op. 29  
THE ENGLISH STRING QUARTET  
Conductor: **JAMES BLAIR**  
£1.50, £2.25, £3.00, £3.75, £4.50 from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

**RUDOLF FIRKUSNY**  
piano  
Sonata in E flat major, Op. 10, No. 5  
Fantasy, Op. 10, No. 1  
£1.50, £2.25, £3.00, £3.75, £4.50 from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

**ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**  
**DAVID ATHERTON** conductor  
**ROBERT TEAR** tenor  
MATIAS: Divertimento for String Orchestra  
BRITTEN: Nocturne, Op. 60  
BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 1 in C  
£1.50, £2.25, £3.00, £3.75, £4.50 from Box Office (01-928 3191) & Agents

**PURCELL ROOM**  
Thursday, 14 February, at 7.30 p.m.  
**SPNM NEW WORKS AND 20th CENTURY MUSIC**  
Martin Davies, Joanne Pooley, Andrew Wilson-Dickson, Robert Davidson  
Park Lane Music Players  
Lynda Richardson, soprano **Michael Lankester**, conductor  
£1.00, £1.40, £1.80 from Box Office (01-928 3191)

**Wigmore Hall**  
Arts Council of Great Britain  
Manager: William Lloyd (Mailing list £1 a year)  
Tickets from Wigmore Hall, 26 Wigmore St. W1  
£1.00, £1.40, £1.80, £2.20, £2.60, £3.00, £3.40, £3.80, £4.20, £4.60, £5.00, £5.40, £5.80, £6.20, £6.60, £7.00, £7.40, £7.80, £8.20, £8.60, £9.00, £9.40, £9.80, £10.20, £10.60, £11.00, £11.40, £11.80, £12.20, £12.60, £13.00, £13.40, £13.80, £14.20, £14.60, £15.00, £15.40, £15.80, £16.20, £16.60, £17.00, £17.40, £17.80, £18.20, £18.60, £19.00, £19.40, £19.80, £20.20, £20.60, £21.00, £21.40, £21.80, £22.20, £22.60, £23.00, £23.40, £23.80, £24.20, £24.60, £25.00, £25.40, £25.80, £26.20, £26.60, £27.00, £27.40, £27.80, £28.20, £28.60, £29.00, £29.40, £29.80, £30.20, £30.60, £31.00, £31.40, £31.80, £32.20, £32.60, £33.00, £33.40, £33.80, £34.20, £34.60, £35.00, £35.40, £35.80, £36.20, £36.60, £37.00, £37.40, £37.80, £38.20, £38.60, £39.00, £39.40, £39.80, £40.20, £40.60, £41.00, £41.40, £41.80, £42.20, £42.60, £43.00, £43.40, £43.80, £44.20, £44.60, £45.00, £45.40, £45.80, £46.20, £46.60, £47.00, £47.40, £47.80, £48.20, £48.60, £49.00, £49.40, £49.80, £50.20, £50.60, £51.00, £51.40, £51.80, 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## Clive Barnes/New York Notebook

## Who is next for the City ballet?

The New York City Ballet is an institution rather more than 50 years old, according to which you like to compute its history. A striking, nevertheless, and a proud hands of its founding fathers, George Balanchine and Lincoln Kirstein. Both are in their mid-seventies (Balanchine has just passed his 76th birthday and Kirstein is some three years younger) and it seems reasonable to presume that they will both retire within the next 20 years.

What will happen to New York City Ballet, a company whose essential traditions have rested solely in creativity and the nurturing of a classic style? Who will be the successor to George Balanchine? Always, presuming that is that there will be a successor, and the company will not one day be set adrift on the Hudson River like a burning hulk. Most people, however, would guess some arrangement by which Peter Martins would be directed, in either name or function, while Jerome Robbins, who seems to have little taste for administration, would be the principal choreographer.

The present season has not been a particularly creative one. The company seems to be absorbing the loss of Mikhail Baryshnikov and the excitement generated by his presence. But in his brief tenure with the company he certainly raised quite a few sparks. There have been no new creations this season, merely a scatty clutch of revivals, all pulled together on a recent gala programme held to benefit the school of American Ballet. All three of the company's current

choreographers, Balanchine, Robbins and the newcomer Martins, were represented.

It was a curious programme that featured 79 females—admittedly most of them young girls from the school in Robbins' *Circus Polka*—and seven males. This was a gala performance that to be brutally frank was not very good. It was brief, there were just two parts, and the second and more solid part of the evening was a preview of the company's new production of Robbins' first ballet *Fancy Free*. This had not previously been danced by any company other than the original Ballet Theatre, although sizeable excerpts from the ballet were given by City Ballet last year at a similar gala.

For 36 years *Fancy Free* has been really ever left. Ballet Theatre's repertoire—it is one of the company's signature pieces and its traditions have been handed to generation after generation of dancer by word of foot. It was perfectly natural that Robbins, for sentimental reasons if nothing else, should want this, his first ballet, in the repertoire of his company, particularly as it is a masterpiece in the genre of character ballet where City Ballet is somewhat deficient. But nothing yet has quite worked out.

The revival, with its original Oliver Smith setting, and Kermit Love costumes, looks band-box new, but the choreography and characterizations are far too hard-edged at the moment, quite lacking the mature grace of the original. The ballet's customary authority in the work. The three sailors, Jean-Pierre Frohlich, Bart Cook and Peter Martins (the latter dancing the original solo Robbins gave himself) are also combining the two roles of the ballet's first dancer by the late John Kriza) are oddly lacking in

charm. They seem more like slob than gobs. When, for example they have their little interplay with the young lady with the red hand-bag, the situation, almost as if they are contemplating rape rather than flirtation.

The first part of this gala consisted of bits and pieces, although whether there were more bits than pieces or pieces than bits could be a matter of dispute. It opened with George Balanchine's *Waltz for Two*, originally created for a production of Gounod's *Faust* at the Paris opera in 1975. It seems neither Faust nor Waltz, but rather a bland divertissement dedicated to Balanchine's well-worn concept that ballet is woman. As it clearly has nothing to do with the opera whatsoever—except for filling in the music—it might have been thought suitable for extraction, and certainly it does have some nice things in it.

Some leaping feminine cohorts diagonally traversing the stage remind one, nostalgically, of the last movement of Bourne's *Entrechats*, for example. The use of a trio, forcefully led by Heather Watts, as a counterpoint to his main ensemble, picked up the form and spirit of the music with Balanchine's customary genius. The choreography, however, appears to be a cross between a nymph and a nymph, even caught something of the gusto of the opera, as she was loyally performed. They are charged-looking Adam Laders. It was not, however, precisely a dionysiac revel. More like the ladies' night at the Turkish baths. If we want a *Waltz for Two*, we should suggest that Leonard Lawsky's version for the Bolshoi is infinitely more fun and less objectionably

tasteful. It also pays attention to the music's sub-text.

We then had two pieces by Peter Martins—miniatures both, almost miniature miniatures. His *Rossini pas de deux*, first given as part of the company's scrapbook of works in progress some 18 months ago, seems fluent but evasive. It has more steps than coherence, even though its aim, and it was clearly aimed by a quick-changing Miss Watts and Sean Lavery, seemed to be towards a flowing cantilena style.

Mr. Martins is having to make his first steps as a choreographer in difficult spotlighted attention—one, incidentally, wonders why he didn't start earlier, every single major choreographer of record did—and with his latest occasional work, *Eight Easy Pieces*, one scarcely knows what one can fairly say about it. It was created a week or so ago for a benefit given for the dance collection of the New York Public Library. It was presumably intended to be as evanescent as a butterfly, and so it will probably prove. Set to Stravinsky's 1915 *Suite for Two Pianos*, Martins has conceived it as a simple trio for young girls in first bloom. The choreography fills in both stage and music without adding much originally to either. The three young girls—all fresh from the school of American Ballet, the beneficiary of this gala—look like dew-fresh children out of Marie Laurencin. For the record, they were Susan Gluck, Roma Sosenko and Stacy Caddell.

This part of the programme ended, most appropriately, with Robbins' *Circus Polka*, a work specially made during the Stravinsky festival of 1972. It is just the very young girls of the school frolicking with discipline under the care of their special instructor, David Richardson.

For me it was the highlight of the evening—drawing proper and due attention to this school's greatness and significance. Gala performances may come round every year, but hopefully with the public's support, the school of American Ballet, that national treasure of equal importance to the company it spawns, will go on forever. Whoever it is at the helm.

The English-speaking theatre takes an extraordinarily shrunken and blinkered view of world theatre. We know American plays and English plays, and we are acutely aware of the fact that the rest of the world.

No one too rich or Brecht, and Anouilh peaked too early. Luckily in New York City we have a tiny, valiant champion of world theatre—Robert Kalin's Chelsea Theatre Centre, one theatre truly in touch with continental Europe, one window on the non-English-speaking world.

Currently the Chelsea Theatre is giving the American premiere of the French playwright, Yves Jamiaque's *Monsieur Amilcar*. There are two inescapable things that have to be said about it. It is Pirandello, and it is a boulevard comedy. Some of my quicker colleagues will doubtless sum it up as a Pirandellian boulevard comedy. But the interesting thing about the play is simply that it is a contradiction in terms. Or at least terms that we once knew. Amilcar is despairing of the fantasies of life realities, so he determines to purchase the realities of his fantasies. He goes out and buys himself a wife (of 30 years standing), a daughter and a best friend. He has bought himself a family in good working order. Their duties are simple enough. They are paid to act out their roles clinically and efficiently. When Amilcar

arrives home from his office, his "family" awaits him. When he goes to bed, they leave. Well, of course, fantasy and reality. Pirandello told us all about that, didn't he? On the large dramatic scale, yes, but Mr. Jamiaque and his Amilcar have some devilishly funny and pertinent afterthoughts—such as the perhaps simplistic notion that if you tell someone they are someone, they become that someone. To a surprisingly large extent this is true.

Now for Mr. Jamiaque's wicked boulevard element. We all know about boulevard comedy in New York, they are the Neil Simon plays that no one of any intellectual perception is allowed to laugh at. Jamiaque is a boulevard playwright. He uses cheap wit as if it were gold dust, and he explores characters with the superficiality of a laser beam. He is no fool. Mr. Jamiaque knows exactly what he is doing—he can turn people out on the sidewalk convinced they have seen a divine mixture of Ionesco, TV soap-opera, brand unspecified, and a lecture on the psychology of existentialism. It is no mean trick.

The adaptation of the play, by George Conneau and Norman Rose, has the sense of awareness and colloquialism of an original, and Mr. Kalin's direction, aided and abetted by the settings by Michael Sharp, the costumes by Elizabeth Palmer and the lighting by Robby Monk, is as easy and as stylish as an aperitif at the Cafe Deux Magots. The acting is variable throughout and in some instances outstanding. Larry Keith as Amilcar is the very personage of controlled yet doubling desperation, and as his hired and surrogate wife Judith Bancroft plays perfectly the kind of cool woman hot fantasies are based on.

## Gardening

## Unpredictable spring

For the purposes of these notes I beg leave to designate December, January and February as the winter months. This fits nicely with my conception of spring as covering March, April and May. The behaviour of plants, their growth and time of flowering is more predictable for the winter period than for the spring months. Plant growth is subject to several factors, mean air temperature, soil temperature and day length. Air and soil temperatures in the previous month or months have a very marked effect on growth.

Another little plant in bloom just now—earlier than usual—is the Moroccan buttercup, *Ranunculus colandrinoides*, with white flowers flushed with pink, and grey-green leaves. These are available from W. Inzweren Ltd, Birch Farm Nursery, Gravelly, East Grinstead, Sussex RH19 4LE.

Soon *Iris hispidus* snowdrops, crocuses and hopelessly the first of the daffodils. February Gold will be out and spring will be just around the corner. That is, it is as may well happen, the weather does not take a sudden prolonged turn for the worse.

Moss has grown happily on lawns in the mild weather. Deal with it now by applying a moss killer. Do not rake it out—will shrivel. Avoid it. You will almost surely miss some bits and if you rake the moss out you may well spread it. You may have to give a second dose. I prefer to use a moss killer. I have had a sudden killing of moss in the garden, but it has not had no trouble. But if you want

intention, even in snowless winters here of changing their life style. But there are some lovely little plants that flower in winter and early spring—some of the cyclamen which such as *C. calceolus* to Christmas, *C. coum* giving its pink carmine or white flowers from December to March and *C. repandum* which if it does not flower in my "winter" does so soon after. But do buy living plants of cyclamen—the dry corns often fail to grow.

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## Jobs for February

Inspect all newly planted trees, shrubs, roses or other plants. If they have been loosened by frosts or gales tread them in again firmly. Check ties.

■ If you intend to buy any roses do so quickly as there is going to be a shortage later on. ■ Inspect everything in store—fruit, vegetables, tubers, gladiolus corms and remove any that are rotting. Watch for signs of mice and if necessary set traps. At one time our local mice seemed to prefer chocolate to cheese, but now we are noticing a good score by using a broad bean as bait.

■ It is worth while spending a few minutes on the small advertisements columns of your local newspaper or asking around because there is quite a lot of manure available these days from riding stables as from mushroom farms.

■ In the greenhouse sow seeds of *ammi*, *lobelia*, *begonia* and annual *rudbeckia*, also sweet peas to have early flowers. Sow onions and summer cabbage.

■ Sow tomato seeds if you have a propagator case or a window sill where the temperature can be kept at 60 deg F until the seeds germinate and if you can keep the greenhouse at 50 deg F after the seedlings have been pricked out.

PS. Today is Candlemas day. So let us see if the old legend holds good again as it did last year. "If Candlemas day be sunny and bright winter will have another fight; if Candlemas day be cloudy with rain, winter is gone and won't come again."

Roy Hay

The collecting column will appear next week.

## Travel

## Aging gracefully

A few years ago I was watching a European ski race at Sanicario when I got into conversation with an elderly British lady who was standing beside me on unfashionably long skis. Casually she let drop the fact that she had represented Britain in one of the early winter Olympics. Not only was she still skiing but, as I later found, she was with a whole group of ancient who were having a very happy holiday doing off-piste excursions among the larches and mountain meadows of Sanicario.

It gave me new hope for the future. Now that the unexpected age of 50 is looming up through the mists of time like an "End of Motorway" sign in the fog I find myself giving more thought to ways of skiing gracefully into old age. This has never been a problem for mountain folk. I remember an extremely old ski instructor in Austria who spent a whole day drinking heavily in a storm-bound mountain hut and next day led us unerringly down a snow-covered mountain through blinding snow. I like to think it was not just luck that got us home. City folk, however, still think of skiing as a sport for young people, who spend their nights dancing and their days swooning athletically down crowded tracks.

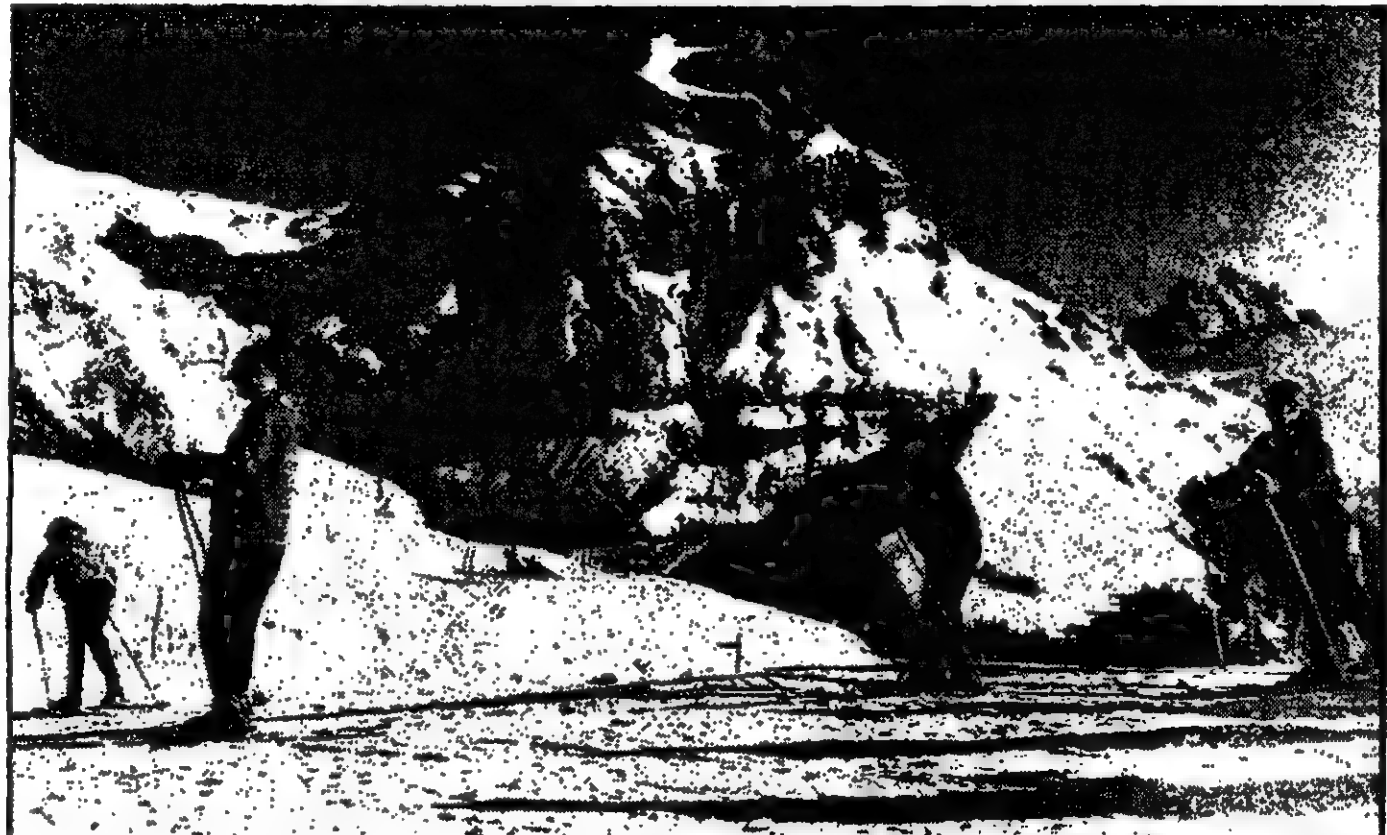
This is a misconception. I am convinced that more and more people are going to spend their retirement pay on the ski slopes, inflation permitting (or, more probably, not permitting). The Ski Club, of course, tells me they have members skiing well into their eighties, and there is a rising demand for their holiday packages with a minimum age of 50. They say that the main danger comes people on ski holidays from being over-enthusiastic in village scenes. This is far more risky and difficult than skiing which has become markedly easier

with the new breed of short skis and the trend towards grooming pistes into wide boulevards. Indeed I know a man of respectable age who says that short skis have added at least 10 years to his skiing life. Moreover there are now more and more people around who have learned a relatively effortless style in their youth, and this is one of the keys to cruising enjoyably towards a late grave. Also, there are simply more people moving into the upper age groups as the pace of the population changes. Geriatric care is the wave of the future.

This means that the travel trade is going to have new fields to conquer. It is probably a significant sign of the times that Supertravel has lifted the age limit which is otherwise 45, on three of their larger chalets in Val d'Isere, Courchevel and Cervinia. Apart from the fact that Mr. Lewthwaite one of the founding directors, has reached the advanced age of 39 and presumably does not want to be excluded from his own parties, they had begun to notice that agents from the counter-culture of the over 45s had begun infiltrating the stockades of youth.

I noticed this myself last year when I spent a short time as guest of a Supertravel chalet in Meribel. Swinging youth was there, but I was not the only undercover operative of the geriatric revolution. One man (the other chalet) said he had simply lived out his life on the booking form. An elderly granny had slipped along with her married son. And I think I spotted one or two other members of the fabric of youth culture has clearly begun.

I hasten to add, for the sake of Supertravel's image, that there were exceptions. Mr Lewthwaite says the average



age of their 12,000 or so winter clients is around 32. Moreover the visit confirmed my belief that chalet parties are the best value for money if one wants really made company and no cooking. They are close to hotels and have the advantage of offering a kind of family atmosphere in which one can wander into the kitchen, fix oneself a drink or a coffee.

The food was good, the girls nice, and the chalet comfortable, with a welcoming log fire in the afternoon.

Of course you have to take the company as you find it unless you bring your own good if you are alone you will probably have to share a room, but skiing is a relaxing business, and even a few agents from the counter-culture of age can be accepted as adding thrills to the rich fabric of life. In any

case they may now head for the larger chalets where they can throw off their cover and book under their real ages.

The other thing about skiing into middle or old age is to get the right mental attitude. Some people still cling grimly to the idea that one must spend every daylight moment on skis. Given the price of ski lifts this is understandable, but there is just as much enjoyment to be had from looking at the trip not as a ski holiday but as a winter holiday, a way of getting away from Britain in January.

Personally I see less and less point in slithering down icy slopes in heavy mist or snow merely for the sake of having done it. Skiing is fun when the snow is good and you can see where you are going. Otherwise there is more to be had

from a good book, a walk or a visit to the next town. Given that approach, the grave is probably the limit to the age to which one can carry on. So maybe someone will start chalet parties with a minimum age limit. Staffed by "chalet granies" perhaps?

Postscript: Last month I briefly sampled Supertravel's age-limit chalet in Courchevel and found a very friendly and harmonious mixture of ages from brightest youth to a mellow group which earned high respect by setting off each morning for the most difficult runs it could find. Truly skiing does something to people. A larger chalet—in this case a former hotel—necessarily creates a larger and looser group with a wider choice of company.

As for Courchevel, it is quite simply one of the best resorts in the world, a paradise of perfectly groomed pistes and open slopes intelligently linked and revealing across the famous Three Valleys to form a gigantic area with runs of all types and standards. It has only two defects. Its icy, car-ridden streets are unnecessarily dangerous and the maps issued to skiers are nothing short of scandalous—inadequate, out of date, wrong in detail, and a cause of constant grumbles. That such an easily corrected detail is allowed to flout perfection is inexcusable. In other respects Courchevel pampers its visitors with some of the best organized, comfortable and well-fed skiing imaginable.

Richard Davy

## Chess

## Optimism for the Olympiad

The finals of the European Team Championship which ended at Skara in Sweden last week were the seventh of a series which I find the choicest and most fascinating of all team chess events. Though not perhaps so important as the World Team Championship which has attained greater recognition by mere weight of numbers, it excels the Olympiad in quality if not in quantity and is a constant reminder that chess as we know it, the modern form of the game that is as opposed to the ancient form known as *Chaturanga* which is Asiatic in origin, first started in Europe.

The Olympiad consists of a vast hodge-podge of teams of all sorts of strength, from fine to good, to average to medium to poor and half-baked. But an intense sifting process has already taken place with the European team final and the result is a wonderful collection of exciting and fine games. I well remember how this impressed me during the first at the series which was held at Vienna and Baden bei Wien in 1957 and where I was the chief arbiter. There were only four teams then, but they played a double-round tournament so that one had the pleasure of seeing great players in action against each other twice over so to speak.

The USSR was an overwhelming winner then and has won it ever since. The event assumed its present form of eight teams at Kapfenberg in Austria in 1970 and once again, as chief

arbiter, I was enthralled by the magnificent quality of the chess played. England had not yet taken part in this event, but we played when the finals were held in Bath in 1972. The first three teams then were USSR 33, Yugoslavia 34 and Hungary 33 and we came equal 5th and 6th with West Germany with 24 points. We fared worse at Moscow in 1977 where we were bottom with 21 points, the first three teams being USSR 41, Hungary 31 and Yugoslavia 30.

When it came to preparing our team for Skara we were fully conscious that our team was the best we had ever sent to the finals and that it had excellent chances of doing well. The many years of concentration on the part of our young players had produced a young team containing four grandmasters and two players on the verge of becoming grandmasters. Moreover, and this was very important in its bearing on the morale of our players, the team was no longer going as a sort of band of poor relations who would watch with envy the perquisites and more fortunate results of the firm of Dumex Lawrie which acted as fairly godmother to the tune of some £2,000.

The result of all this was at once apparent. In the very first round we met the Soviet team and scored 4-4 against them. Tony Miles set the tempo and the degree of animosity for the leading boards by beating the

world champion Karpov in no uncertain fashion and Nunn too had a resounding victory over Polugaevsky.

In the next round a strange and somewhat vexing problem manifested itself. While the English top boards continued to perform wonders the lower boards were correspondingly dismal failures. So much so that though on the first four boards against Bulgaria England scored 3-1, on the lower boards Bulgaria did even better and emerged with a 4-3 victory.

This pattern repeated itself till the round when the English lower boards at last made good and England beat Yugoslavia by 6-2. In the penultimate round they beat Sweden by 4-3 and this meant they were second to the Soviet team with a march in prospect in the last round against their nearest rivals Hungary.

In the last round the four top English boards scored only 11-21 against Hungary and this meant that, with the USSR an easy first with 36 points, Hungary came second with 29 and England third with 28. There followed Yugoslavia 28, Bulgaria 27, Czechoslovakia 26, Israel 25 and Sweden 23. The evenness of the struggle, with the exception of the USSR, was shown by the fact that Hungary, England, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria were each consecutively half a point below the other.

How notable the achievement of the top English players was appears from the consideration that, had this been an Olympiad

and play confined to four boards, England would have scored as follows: v USSR 3-1 v Bulgaria 3-1, v Czechoslovakia 2-2, v Israel 3-1, v Yugoslavia 3-1, v Sweden 2-1-14 and v Hungary 11-23. Undoubtedly the best chess Olympiad, England would have come first and this augurs well for our prospects in the Olympiad later this year.

England won three best score prizes: on the first board where Tony Miles scored 4/7, on the third board where Nunn did even better with 5/7 and on the fifth board where Keres shared the prize with the Israeli grandmaster Kaidman with 4/7. Michael Stean had the fine score of 4/7 on second board and Speelman and Miles had the more than satisfactory score of 3/4 on boards 4 and 7, respectively. The scores on the lower boards were correspondingly dismal and are best left in decent obscurity. But all the same it was a notable performance and the first time in the history of the event when a Western European country figured among the medals.

No one has made such a notable advance in big tactical chess as John Nunn and here is how he beat the formidable Soviet grandmaster Polugaevsky in Round 1. White, Polugaevsky. Black, Nunn. Diagram below.

1-P-Q4 N-K3 7-P-K4 B-K2 2-N-K3 P-B4 8-B-K2 B-0 3-P-Q5 B-K3 9-Q-K4 P-K1 4-P-Q4 P-P 10-B-K2 B-K2 5-P-P P-Q3 11-B-K2 N-K4 6-B-K3 P-K3 12-P-Q3 N-K4

All up to here as in the game Korchnoi-Mecking, August 1974, which continued 12... P-KN4; 13. B-N2, P-N5; 14. K-R-K1, N-R4; 15. N-Q1, N-B5; 16. B-N5, R-B1; 17. N-K3, Q-N4; 18. N-B5, R-P2; 19. P-B1, N-K4; 20. B-K1, B-K2, B-K2 with equality.

13-B-N2 P-B2 16-Q-K1 14-B-K2 B-02 15... Q-R5; 16. N-B4

Better is 15. N-Q1, and if then 15... Q-R5; 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

15... Q-R5 16. N-B4

Position after 20... B-R6

Position after 20... B-R6

Position after 20... B-R6

Position after 20... B-R6

Position after 20... B-R6

Position after 20... B-R6

Position after 20... B-R6

Position after 20... B-R6

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Position after 20... B-R6

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White resigns.

**Harry Golombek**



## Fred Emery on how close Mrs Thatcher came to losing a minister Cabinet tremors over the cuts

How near was a resignation? We may never know unless someone in Mrs Thatcher's team is keeping a diary.

The political resignation that would have caused a sensation this week did not happen. No, it is not Mr James Callaghan. The Leader of the Opposition has been rather testy with the growing chorus urging him to stay no longer on the manner of his going, but he will not retire before November if he can help it. In his case it was a pity BBC strikers prevented transmission of his interview recorded with Mr Robin Day, for Mr Callaghan seemed intent on showing that he was still in charge.

Had Mr Callaghan gone, there would have been no sensation, only fascination over the succession and whether Mr Denis Healey would be deprived of his inheritance. My reference is to the seismic shock of a ministerial resignation from Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet.

Consider: a government beset by a steel state, having to become more provocative towards trades unions as a result of Lord Denning and his colleagues; a government wrestling with inflation and squeezing still more out of public expenditure; a government challenging EEC partners and even the Russians. A resignation would have convulsed the scene and propelled the Prime Minister to a crisis of credibility which she has so scrivened to preserve.

How near was such a resignation? It is a bit like asking how near we were to losing Harrisburg in last year's nuclear accident. We may never know, for sure, unless, like Mrs

Castle, someone in Mrs Thatcher's team is keeping a diary. But in the view of several senior politicians the force - that - on - me - I - shall - have - to go Richter scale was certainly recording tremors last week.

The great "them and us" fight over money between department and Treasury ministers might have had five or six ministers muttering threats, according to one view; for another, the number was two, perhaps only one.

Now, the great strain of cutting spending back still further is bound to produce ructions and conflicts of heart and head and loyalties. There is no reason why Conservatives should be any different from Labour in this; indeed it can be said that this Cabinet contains more men of principle than the last the strain is heavier.

But perspective requires a clear distinction be made between rehearsing resignation threats to the mirror or to one's colleagues - and actually going in to the Prime Minister and uttering. There is no evidence that last week it actually had to come to that. But from the Cabinet's inability to conclude its settlement over the surplus, and the fact that the target of a further £1,000m off next year's spending (leaving aside our receding "money bag" from the EEC) it can be seen that some dour argument continues.

Those engaged in the battle want it clear that there is no

real divergence over objective. Restoration of the economy is the agreed priority, so, too, is a steadfast military posture, even by the departments who spend most. But big spenders are obviously having to cut back - with one exception, defence.

Again, it is said by ministers, everyone understands that the Chancellor and his immediate colleague, Mr John Biffen, have the duty to try making sure that no one escapes the cut, even if only by paring knife. In the present exercise when Mrs Thatcher publicly stated that no sacred cows would be respected, her head if not her heart has to be with the Treasury men, especially when other besieged ministers are saying that defence increases simply cannot be afforded. In the nuclear age cannot a brigade of tanks wait another year?

Under Labour, defence cuts

became a way of life - as much, one suspects, for Treasury officials as for politicians, and no one made more of it than the Conservatives. And there's the rub. How could the Conservatives, the party of the flag and champion of the Services, contemplate defence spending cuts? Well, the short answer is that they did, at least in terms of not increasing spending as they had promised.

This was not an unattractive thing to do. Indeed Labour MPs would have been bound to applaud rather than jeer. But it must have seemed heresy when set against the dogma and commitments of faith. "Labour have cut down our forces, weakened our defences and reduced our contribution to Nato ... it is already obvious that significant increases will be necessary", stated the 1979 Conservative manifesto, leaving Britain to make "any unilateral cuts in defence spending".

three per cent real increase next year over this year's defence spending, as well as getting and keeping "full comparability" for service pay.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union in Afghanistan seemed to confirm the Iron Lady's presence over the Kremlin's ill intentions. This helped prepare public acceptance not only of immediate increases but of the costly and contested replacement of the British nuclear deterrent which will be decided this spring. Furthermore, we were calling our principal EEC allies "wer".

Such an atmosphere Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Defence, might have been fancied a likely beneficiary, like his Pentagon colleague, of a big boost to his budget; not a bit. Mr Pym's plan was for gradual year-by-year improvement, commensurate with the maximum the economy could stand. But he was faced with an increasingly desperate rearguard action to hold on to what he had promised.

How could his Defence white paper, to appear at the end of this month ahead of the Expenditure white paper, be presented plausibly? As one backbench Tory sprang it on Mrs Thatcher during last Monday's debate, when she was talking about doing "whatever is necessary to counter Soviet policies", would this not be the worst possible moment for Britain to make "any unilateral cuts in defence spending"?

The Prime Minister, in reiterating the Government's basic pledge of 2 per cent, was thought by other Tories to have planned the question in order to help Mr Pym in his battle with the Chancellor. But, for her, that is too Machiavellian.

Mrs Thatcher was reputed at that stage to be backing Sir Geoffrey. Other Cabinet colleagues did not rate highly Mr Pym's chances of escaping the cuts unscathed.

But Mr Pym, MC, who in some respects is a bit of a lone wolf, in others a political operator, is the last man who could be asked to argue a case he would not accept. The commitments the Government made were for him paramount, for national security, for morale and for political credibility. He had his sticking point.

And, although on Thursday afternoon some Commons observers were startled at seeing him sitting for a good while longer than seemed necessary in the row behind the Front Bench, the happy end of this chapter is that he has won. How and when he carried it off is not yet clear. But Mrs Thatcher agrees that the defence commitments, pay and equipment, must be kept, with no paring down at the edges.

This insight into the straits of this so far secretive Government in no way suggests a Cabinet in disarray. But is it growing restive under pressure? Or is it, as ministers contend, good government reached through tough arguments.

## What South Africa must do to play

Integrated clubs and integrated sport constitute far less than one per cent of sport activities

What changes in South African sport would justify its readmission to world competition after more than a decade of controversy, protest and isolation? The simple answer is: the eradication of sports apartheid. But as the Sports Council's fact-finding mission, now out in South Africa, is doubtless realizing, a much more precise formulation is needed of the changes to be made.

For whilst the recent changes in the country's sport have been significant, by South African standards, by world standards they have been entirely superficial. The sports system has been given a facelift, with racial restrictions being relaxed in certain limited respects and usually during national or prestige events likely to attract international attention. But at club level, where change must occur if it is to have any meaning for most sportsmen and women, racialism still rules. As a government MP said in South Africa's House of Assembly on May 21 last year: "Integrated clubs and integrated sport constitutes far less than one per cent of total sport activities in South Africa".

Moreover, a string of apartheid laws and regulations governing multi-racial sport, within the educational system - and especially at school level - all sport should be integrated.

Seventh, the South African Government should implement a sports development programme to raise the level of black sports facilities and opportunities, with each citizen enjoying an equal proportion of state funds devoted to sport.

Eighth, all official restrictions on and harassment of non-racial sports officials should be abolished. For whilst the white-controlled sports system has recently been decorated with a few compliant blacks, the non-racial groups who have stuck to their guns have been intimidated, harassed, security services or prosecuted.

Some of their leading officials have been served with banning orders and have been denied passports to present their case abroad. Even the former white Springbok cricketer, "Cheeky" Watson, who in 1977 resigned from the white rugby body and joined the non-racial South African Rugby Union, has been arrested several times, solely for the "crime" of entering a black township to play for his new club.

These eight conditions, it should be noted, do not require the abolition of apartheid in its broader political, economic or social sense, although they will undoubtedly encourage that. They are conditions which, if implemented in their entirety, could open the way for South Africa's re-admission to world sport. That would not imply any lessening of opposition to apartheid as a whole, merely an acknowledgement that sport had been exempted from it.

Nothing less than the full implementation of these conditions would be acceptable however. For the past decade has shown that only an uncompromising stance produces real change. And now we should be heartily transfused by the heart transplant surgeon, Professor Christian Barnard and, more recently, by South Africa's rugby supremo, Dr Denis Craven, isolation has worked: the protest campaigns have done more than anything else to force change. In the past, both men were fierce critics of these campaigns. Thus, South Africa must remain in isolation until it legislates to remove apartheid from sport.

Violence such as the British Lions rugby tour serve only to reverse the tide of change created by the boycotts: unless whites have an incentive to accelerate changes beyond the present cosmetic level the record shows they will not do so.

Peter Hain

### Solution to The Times Crossword, No 1, February 1, 1980.

ACROSS—1, Smeag; 4, Penserose; 10, Mayo; 11, Nomad; 13, Respected; 15, Sew; 17, Dean; 18, Diehard; 21, Suspect; 23, Relief; 25, Soar; 26, Skid; 27, Tureens; 30, Con; 33, Immense; 35, Alto; 38, Umbo; 39, Turtle; 41, Rasing; 43, Earlom; 45, Tilt; 47, See; 48, Diffident; 50, Egret; 51, Enid; 52, Selenites; 53, Total.

DOWN—2, Maori; 3, Abashed; 4, Par; 5, Eyed; 6, Noses; 7, Evensong; 8, Ostler; 9, Dashed; 12, Deal; 14, Pause; 16, Wit; 18, Desk; 19, Eon; 20, Deceit; 22, Deed; 24, Front; 28, Enue; 29, Ambition; 31, Sled; 32, Doom; 33, Imp; 34, Monks; 35, Eras; 36, Allegro; 37, Brides; 38, Useful; 40, Tree; 42, Grass; 44, Opera; 46, Anne; 49, Tis.

The solution to the clue "To be, or not to be, that is the meaning the breaking off of a sentence."

Andrew Rissik

## Can Russian peasants teach us about worship?

As a member of the General Synod of the Church of England and before that of the Church Assembly, I voted for all the liturgical experiments then contemplated. Experiments had to be made in the West, but frequent visits to eastern Europe put a question mark against many things that I had voted for.

We were told with some confidence that old fashioned language in the Bible and the Prayer Book were unintelligible to many, or alternatively that though people could understand it when they tried, they "rusted off" when they were not. I voted for the cadences of Cranmer and the Authorized Version. But when I went to Russia I found fervent and large congregations, always including many simple men and women, who listened with intense devotion to very long services which were not easily understood of the people. It was as if the Book of Common Prayer had been composed by Chaucer instead of Cranmer and the Bible translated by the author of Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.

Knowing modern Russian but never having learnt any of the older forms of Slavonic, I could not understand much at first. But, like a Russian peasant I learnt to stand through a service of two or three hours, and gradually what I heard and saw began to come into focus. At the twentieth hearing I would suddenly understand one of the sentences for St John the Baptist's day.

Coming back to Britain I seldom felt the same sense of ship that I encountered so often in Russia. But I gave two cheers for Series Two and one cheer for Series Three. We did not seem to have arrived anywhere in particular but we were on the way. There are some striking beauties in the new forms of service, as well as much that is insipid. I soon found that one can pray in the new ways, but for me, as for many others, the older forms remained "the C major of this life".

Twenty years ago we in the West had to experiment with worship, we needed new translations of the Bible and new church structures for the new age. Now we have had experiments in all these fields and what is the result? Some people have been helped and at particular places small advances have been made with groups that were previously church resistant. But by and large the churches are emptier than before.

But when I go back to eastern Europe I find that, without doing any of the things that I voted for when I was a member of the Synod, the churches have made notable advances.

When the New English Bible came out, the Russian congrega-

By and large the churches are emptier than before

tions, which are those I know best, were fervent but uneducated. Nowadays the predominant element in these same congregations is increasingly the younger intelligentsia, precisely the element that under Tsarism and for the first 40 years of the Revolution was most resistant to Christianity.

The Pope's visit to Poland has shown how deep religious feeling is in that country. And in varying degrees the same is true of other countries in Communist eastern Europe. In particular it is no longer possible to understand the Soviet Union without taking account of the religious dimension.

The churches of eastern Europe are more conservative in their forms of worship, yet their hold on both simple and learned is great, and is increasing year by year. At the same time religious belief and practice in the West makes little progress, if it is not actually in decline. It would be going too far to say that traditional expressions of faith are always likely to have a stronger appeal than experimental forms of worship. But it is clear that by themselves the modern reforms do only a little to the religious life.

Personally I conclude that faith is the supreme factor in the attraction of the Gospel. Where faith has been tried in the first, as in the communist countries of eastern Europe, it is strong and draws to itself tens of millions. Where it is weak, as so often in the West, the attraction is far less. The language of worship and the structures of church life are secondary. Faith can work through any language and any structure but a deeper faith will generally prefer a worship that is strongly rooted in tradition.

I do not want to stop any of the experiments now being made in my own church or any other church. And I do not want to go back to the 1662 Prayer Book. But I believe that the end we are seeking is a worship that is more catholic and more traditional than most of what we are now trying out. In the end perhaps it is Series One that will suit us best.

John Lawrence

## James Bond: from action man to a slapstick puppet hero

James Bond is the most glittering and costly of the cinema's heroes. Suave and indestructible, he has strode through some 11 films, made a fortune for their makers and survived triumphantly through two decades. As we enter the 80s there are two Bond movies in the pipeline.

United Artists promise us *For Your Eyes Only*, almost certainly another glittering mechanized carnival along the lines of the recent *Moonraker* and almost certainly starring affable Mr Roger Moore. Meanwhile, Sean Connery, the original Bond and the best, wants to leap back into harness. His projected movie *Warhead*, which stars himself as 007 in a script co-written with Len Deighton, is apparently going into production in March. At which is interesting because the Roger Moore *Moonraker* was the worst of the series, and the current retrospective at the NFI has not only given Bond more sort of official recognition but has also indicated that there's a nostalgic yearning after Connery's lethal '60s prototype.

Bond is bigger than ever now, but his status has shifted a bit. In the 60s it was stylish pop; at present it's costly rubbish. The movie-makers have turned the vaporous 007 into an emasculated marionette, a dummy with moveable parts who merely acts as the central devisor for a slapstick world of combustible hardware and jaded mechanical sepiacles. Connery galvanised the rather dull scripts he was given into insolent life, made the expensive world of the chic commercial a backdrop for virile heroics and blew to shreds the idea that Bond was the "cardboard boob" of Fleming's novels.

Moore has worked the trick backwards: his Bond is the prop for a series of costly advertisements for anything from Seiko watches to the construction kit sets that are wheeled out now with such predictable facility.

The original Connery-Bond was essentially a 60s hero: arrogant, classless, liberated, promiscuous, flippant and intensely conspicuous. He wasn't part of the cult of rebellion or youth or permissiveness but the classless style, anarchic violence and casual promiscuity of the characterization marked the tone of a clubland hero who wasn't clubland and who flouted clubland rules. It was a deft and impertinent updating of the traditional hero, a workable mode for an anti-traditional age. Right from the aggressive, punchy image of the lithe silhouette who turns and fires at the audience to the casually sexy love-at-first-sight, Bond was a celebration of the 60s zest for consumer orientated hedonism and go-getting action.

There was a recognizable British scene in the 60s; by the time the 70s got underway it had vanished. British



Sean Connery as Bond in "Diamonds are Forever"—a lethal prototype.

social life had fragmented and the crystallizing image of Swinging London had gone forever. There was a sense, too, that British cinema were no longer those of the world. More interesting and important things were happening across the Atlantic.

This idea of Britain as a "shabby little island delighted with itself" (Hare) wasn't conducive to the bogus imperialism from which the Bond heroes had sprung. Consequently, the Bond character became superciliously English and the movies tried to find themselves American playlands. The far west of *Diamonds are Forever* was followed by another giddy American spin in *Live and Let Die*, with such hot United States concerns as black power and narcotics being given a kind of camp English overkill. *The Man With the Golden Gun* saw Bond firing with the problem of solar energy. *The Spy Who Loved Me* got very cuddly about détente and *Moonraker* was an Airfix kit version of the NASA space shuttle scheme.

The 70s were an ugly and abrasive decade substituting crudity for panache. At best their tone of sour compassion has produced some fine and intelligent movies; the emergence of talents like Coppola and Scorsese have been compensations for the vicarious brutality of movies like *Dirty Harry* and its fascist obsession

with urban slaughter. The 70s ditched the half-baked optimism of the 60s but hadn't anything to replace it with, and the decade has felt numb and empty and raw. A *Clockwork Orange*, *Taxi Driver*, and the two parts of *The Godfather* have epitomised this sense of a negative ideology. Bond has had problems because, in the 60s, killing people was a sexy task. In the 70s we became aware of the nastiness underneath this comic pornography. Manson proved just how unfunny the idea of killing people for kicks really was, and it wasn't long before *Dirty Harry* and *Fury* Driver took this voyeuristic neurosis and turned it into a reactionary virtue. Bond was too light in tone, too much of a desk-top toy, to take this vindictive commitment.

The moment Roger Moore stepped into the graceful *Live and Let Die* Bond became flabby and harmless, a square guffaw at the expense of a decade now past. With his twee cigars, smart sporting blazers and cosy features Moore threw out Connery's insolent cool and replaced it with an awful pink geniality.

The 70s saw that the only way to deal with Bond was to send him up. When Connery returned to the role after George Lazenby's strait-laced shift in *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*, he came lurking back in a wittily written piece of black camp that sent his own

60s superstar legend sky high. *Diamonds are Forever* may have been camp but at least it had a hero; Connery's adroit tribute to the ingenious heroics of the early 60s. Moore's Bond isn't a hero because he isn't a star. He's a party asteroid whose proper place is the bland knockabout of the multi-episode TV action series.

In the 70s Bond reached a camp impasse: no hero, no villains, no plot, no danger, that was left was a form of demented mechanic slapstick rendered impotent by its own lack of purpose and direction. The late 70s saw the revival of the hero and a new, guarded optimism. *Star Wars*, *The Deer Hunter* and *Superman* have, all in their different ways, returned to the big budget movie, the old-fashioned hero who affirms traditional values in a new age and a new idiom.

The astute move of the Bond team at the start of the 70s was to get Connery back to guy his own ironic heroism. The astute move they could make now would be to abandon Roger Moore's aging tele star and call in a red blooded young sophisticate who could reinstate the deadly style of the early movies and revamp their heroic ingenuousness. It is time for the hero to reclaim his role as the propulsive centre of his own lethal legend.

Andrew Rissik

## SPORTS DIARY

### Dad's show goes on at Monterey

The show goes on. In 1937 Bing Crosby because of his love of golf and acquaintance with its professionals on the one hand, and his involvement in the world of entertainment on the other, gathered a few friends from both worlds together and ran a competition. After play the company stayed on for a barbecue evening. From such small beginnings the Crosby pro-am grew into something so big that more than £1m has gone to charities. When the world's most famous crooner died in 1977 the tournament must surely have continued under its own impetus over had the founder not cared. But he cared and it has been left to

his younger son, Nathaniel, who inherited his love for the game, to maintain the tradition.

Nathaniel is 19, a scratch golfer and a student at Miami University where he has already begun winning local tournaments. In acting as host at the head of the organizing committee for the event which has had its headquarters at Pebble Beach since the war, he shows all the ease of manner in mixing with dukes and dustmen that distinguished his father. The impact of his youthful person ality on the event is clear cut already, but as he says: "It will always be dad's show".

The weather can be nightmarish. In 1952, for example, Cary Middlecoff and Ed Crow key, who were twice in the winner's circle during that decade, decided there was only one way to keep the ball on the pin on the famous 17th tee at Cypress, and that was by build-

ing up the golf bags into a stockade against the gale.

But it is a dream of a place for golfers. It is a little late in my career to start enthusing about the beauties of the Monterey peninsula, but the trees are still weirdly gnarled, the seaweed smells as pungent as ever it did, the Pacific breakers still proudly toss their white manes. It has all been said before and perhaps the highest compliment that could be paid it now is to add that the description I have previously read of it have not proved exaggerated.

### A wider view of touring

In talking to an American professional golfer who has not yet reached the peak of his career one might expect to hear him prepare the ground a little before starting a conversation

about one of the old Big Three of British golf, J. H. Taylor, who won his last Open championship in 1913.

But not if the professional in question is Ben Crenshaw. This remarkable personality, who enjoys the dubious distinction of being champion runner-up four times, finished second in the four major events—the British and US Opens, the Masters and the American Professional Championship, which constitutes the history of the game which is not simply a raising of the hat to tradition. It is real and deep.

There was not much I could tell him. He is already booked in for this year's Open at Muirfield, and he prompted my memory in naming the first winner of the championship on that course, the amateur Harold Hilton. He even knew about the auction last autumn of an original putter of J. H.

Taylor by "Spy" that ferched some hundreds of pounds.

If all this makes him sound a dilettante of the professional tour, nothing could be less true. With his growing interest in the roots of the game and in the design of courses, which is naturally linked with that, he is simply taking a wide view of a career which is his life. He loves the people and places on tour, even though an indifferent course will nearly always draw the worst out of him.

### British invasion

The Californian golf tour, though it has not lacked an occasional British writer has never seen such a heavy concentration of them as attended the last big tennis tournament in New York. An American tennis writer tells me the

navies were heavily outnumbered there by the invading force. Even so, this most distant corner of America does not lack British infiltration at this time of year. San Diego has recently become twinned with Edinburgh and the Lord Provost of the Scottish capital chose a good time to visit the "twin" last week, for it coincided not only with the professional golf tournament but with the Burns night dinner given by the strong community of these in the city with Scottish ancestry. Whether the San Diegans banded the haggis in the approved manner may be open to question, but there can be no doubt of their warm reception of Lord and Lady Borthwick, their distinguished guests of honour.

Another Scot was in San Diego on rather different grounds. Mr Ronnie Ross, Lord of Paisley Park, had been invited to play in the Andy Williams pro-am. Mr Rossi may not be a show-biz personality in his own right, but he has a rarer quality, a striking resemblance to the television character Kojak, including a shaven head. It is perhaps just as well that he did not come on to the Crosby pro-am because the real Kojak, Telly Savalas, was taking part.

Another Briton enjoying the Californian temperature, but working as Professor Ronald Maudsley who for many years was in charge of university golf at Oxford. He has his year neatly divided up now between the winter, New York in the autumn, and a return to his old university in the summer. Over the border in Nevada there has been an opportunity for another Briton to acquire a mild tan. Golf has now turned up on the form of the John Jacobs golf school. In between visits to the

pool side, which in that city can mean either swimming or gambling, tourists can have the benefit of his celebrated teaching system which in simple words amounts to learning what they are doing wrong by understanding the behaviour of the ball you have just hit.

An article appeared recently in a Los Angeles paper written in a light vein, looking ahead to the possibility that if the fuel situation gets worse and costs rise, there might in the winter months be a mass emigration from the frozen North-east to the Californian resorts. All that would be left behind, the article said, would be New York and Chicago would be caretakers, a few civil servants, and a skeleton police force, until the migrants returned in the spring.

Peter Ryde





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## GOOD LAW? BAD JUSTICE

Yet again the Law Lords have resisted the temptation to equitable but creative interpretation of law dangled before them by Lord Denning. How far they have rejected his arguments we shall not know until the judgments are published. When they come they will certainly be read with interest. The speed and unanimity of their decision, and Lord Diplock's comment that there were no significant differences between this case and that of *McShane*, suggest that the full judgments on the *McShane* case, also unanimous, showed significant disagreement on important matters of law, and it is unlikely that the new judgments will fully clear up the uncertainties that remain in the law on secondary industrial action. Only legislation, now promised by the Government, can do that. The clear practical unfairness of yesterday's decision, however legislation imperative in any case, its immediate result is that the private steelmen are to be called out again, in order to put pressure on the Government.

Lord Diplock's words seem at least to rule out Lord Denning's proposition that two separate disputes existed in the steel strike, one a trade dispute where all the usual immunities for industrial action could be claimed, and the other a political dispute, aimed at the Government rather than the employer, where they could not. Lord Denning's distinction

between trade and political disputes does, of course, follow the existing law on the subject, though the Law Lords may well have decided on the facts of this case that this dispute remained industrial despite its extension and despite Mr Sir's ill-considered letter. There is a real difficulty in distinguishing between industrial and political pressure when the Government is the employer in a dispute. It would, however, be regrettable if the Lords brought pure political strikes for the first time under the cover of immunity. Uncertainty is still likely to surround the question whether the law sanctions secondary action wherever the strikers genuinely believe it is in furtherance of his cause, or only where there are some objective grounds for his belief. In the *McShane* case the Law Lords did not agree on that. The need for legislation is shown both by the uncertainty and the unsatisfactory nature of the law; and what is certain is not what is satisfactory.

The broad merits of the case were quite clear. The steel union called out its members in private employment not because of any dispute the union or its members had with the private employers, but because the supply of privately-made steel was undermining the effects of the strike in the public sector. The private employers were unwilling to strike, which is not to be wondered at when the union provides no strike pay, and wage increases in the public sector

would be of no direct benefit to them. Their feelings have probably not changed, but, with the threat of further pickets, they will very probably feel obliged to stop work again. No body of workers should be brought out on strike without being given a chance to reject the strike plan in a ballot.

Among workers in the public sector, the legal battle and victory will probably strengthen morale and sense of rectitude (already high) in a dispute which is exacting heavy costs from them, and seems set for a long haul yet. The private employers now have no means of redress for the losses they are suffering because of a dispute that they are not parties to. It is wrong that they should not; the House of Lords may be correct in its interpretation of the law, as applied to the facts of this case, but its judgment does not in the broad sense achieve justice.

We are sometimes told by scholarly lawyers that *Magna Carta* has no longer any force in British courts; that it is not binding. The private steel employers will have had that scholarly point brought home to them in the most vivid way. "To no one will we sell, deny or delay rights or justice." When it comes to trade union law the House of Lords holds, repeatedly and perhaps correctly, that no rights or justice exist under British statutes.

## A VOLUNTARY REGISTER WOULD BE BETTER

In the House of Commons yesterday Mr Hugh Fraser proposed the compulsory registration of all those who might be eligible for military or some form of national service at a time of crisis. This is a constructive idea, but we do not think it is necessarily the right one. That there is a case for improving the country's preparedness is unquestionable, although paradoxically there are those who will question it. Not for the first time in its history Britain is strangely unready to cope with the unforeseen. Our armed forces are well-motivated, well-trained and reasonably well-equipped. But they remain too small. Their reserves would be almost entirely untrained simply to pump out the ranks to battlefield strength, after which there would be no rapid means of reinforcement. There is simply no provision for it.

As a result Britain would be able to make a valuable contribution to Nato during the first month or so of fighting, but probably not for much longer. The common assumption is that the weight of firepower which could now be brought to bear, together with the threat, real or implied, of escalation to a nuclear exchange, dictates that the next war would be over in a very short time.

Such assumptions have been notoriously wrong in the past

however, and we have little reason to think ourselves more prescient than previous generations. Indeed, even if this assumption proved to be correct, the outbreak of war in Europe would still leave Britain with a lot of catching up to do. And outside Aesop, the tortoise does not always enjoy a happy ending. The argument in favour of Mr Fraser's proposal is that by being compulsory it would be comprehensive. If the Government did suddenly find themselves in need of additional manpower, either to fill out the armed forces or to help the emergency services at home, they would at least know where to find it.

One argument against, however, is that a list of names and addresses of untrained, un-equipped young men, however able and willing, would be of little use unless one had the machinery to mobilize them and to capitalize upon their skills. Under present plans such machinery would not be in place. All the service training establishments would, for instance, be run down on the outbreak of war; their staffs would be needed in the front line.

Another argument against Mr Fraser's proposal is that compulsory registration might cause more trouble than it would be worth. However minimal it might

seem, one can imagine the howl of protest in Parliament, among the unions, in the universities. The British object even to census returns and would assuredly complain about any more regular, more significant scrutiny.

A preferable idea would be to encourage the voluntary registration of those who would be willing to place their particular skills at the service of the country should the need arise. This could include not only those who would enlist in the armed forces but also those who would help swell the emergency services at home. We would in effect create a reserve of reserves who would move into the places vacated by the existing reserves after mobilization and could be quickly trained to make up the next echelon. One-day courses could be organized to explain to them in advance what might be expected of them, and where they should report.

There is plenty of good will in Britain. Compulsory registration might run the risk of eroding this. Voluntary registration would capitalize upon it. A manageable list of enthusiastic, skilled volunteers would be more valuable than an unwieldy register of reluctant conscripts. It is after all the same principle of quality as opposed to quantity on which our regular armed forces are modelled.

## A FIRM, PERHAPS LEFTISH, QUEEN TO BE

The House of Orange has had its fair share of controversy in the thirty-one years that Queen Juliana has been on the throne. But it has come through unscathed and popular, and Queen Juliana has been different from many Dutch life since her announcement on Thursday that she would abdicate on April 30. The position of the Dutch monarch is broadly similar to that of the British, in that he or she is responsible for asking the most suitable person to form a new government. But the Dutch political system, which requires the formation of coalition governments, often after months of negotiations, makes more demands on the monarch in the normal course of events; and Queen Juliana is widely felt to have carried out her responsibilities with skill and propriety. She has been praised, for example, for her role in the long crisis which followed the 1977 election, when she should be part of a new coalition because of the gains she had made, even though it eventually proved impossible.

Queen Juliana succeeded her mother, Queen Wilhelmina, when she abdicated in 1948. She did

not have her mother's iron dignity, but introduced a simplicity to the life of the Royal Family. She sent Princess Beatrix, who will succeed her in April, to a local high school and, like other Dutch people, the members of the family were much seen on bicycles. There was a difficult period in the 1950s when Queen Juliana, much upset by the near blindness of her youngest daughter, came under the influence of Miss Greet Hofmans, a faith healer with pacifist beliefs, and was much criticized for it. But that crisis passed with the help of Prince Bernhard.

Then there was the other, more serious crisis in 1976 when Prince Bernhard himself was found to have been "open to" discreditable requests and offers by an official Dutch inquiry investigating the Lockheed bribery scandal. It was thought that Queen Juliana might feel obliged to abdicate, even though there was no suggestion of her being in any way involved. But the scandal died down after Prince Bernhard had resigned from a number of official functions, including Inspector-General of the Dutch armed forces, and today the incident is no

longer held against the Royal Family by most Dutch people.

Princess Beatrix is known for having strong opinions of her own, and is expected to see her role as a more forceful one than her mother chose. She provoked a controversy of her own when she became engaged to Prince Claus van Amsterg, then a German citizen. The objection was simply that he was German, and it provoked a tense atmosphere at their wedding in Amsterdam in 1966, when 8,000 troops and police were brought in to line the route, protests were made by local Jewish leaders, and smoke bombs were thrown by protesters. But on that occasion, too, the storm passed and Prince Claus has been fully accepted by the Dutch; indeed he has made an excellent contribution to Dutch life. Today the republican tendencies which emerged in the 1960s have died down. Princess Beatrix will be becoming Queen at a time when the House of Orange is widely accepted in The Netherlands, and when she herself, whatever apprehensions may be felt about her forceful character and her supposedly left-wing views, will be given a genuine welcome.

## Afghanistan invasion

From Mr Ivan Krushelnysky  
Sir, Since the latest Soviet act of aggression, this time against Afghanistan, various suggestions have been put forward in the columns of your newspaper, for example, to express thoughts which, I am sure, are shared by millions of people inside the Soviet Union?

Most of the recently publicized western measures against the USSR are welcome, but only time will tell how determined western leaders and peoples will be in applying them. Past experience does not cheer one up.

There is a weapon, however, about which responsible people in the West, information media included, have maintained silence but which the Russian rulers fear more than the western nuclear arsenal put together. This mighty weapon is the national liberation aspirations and movements of the non-Russian

peoples inside the Soviet Union, the last large colonial empire.

Now is the highest time for the West, instead of helping the Russians, proper to preserve their empire for various immoral reasons, to help the tens of millions inside that empire—the 50 million Ukrainians first of all—to regain their freedom and independent statehood and thus reduce the present-day powerful threat to the West, to several states which would not be a threat to others now and for centuries to come. The declared must not extend to Moscow's satellite states only!

The West should turn the openly pursued Russian policy of recognizing and arming pseudo-Nationalist Marxist movements in countries outside the Soviet Union by supporting Russians themselves by supporting the representative bodies of the genuine national liberation movements inside the Russian empire, like the Anti-Bolshevik block of nations.

For much too long the West has not shown any initiative in matters concerning liberty of man and of peoples inside the Soviet Union allowing the Russians a free hand for subversion in all corners of the world.

Yours faithfully,  
IVAN KRUSHELNYSKY,  
38 South View Avenue,  
Caversham,  
Reading,  
January 11.

## Breezy informality?

From Mr Simon Cave  
Sir, I wonder if other visitors to Brussels this week have seen the appropriate new sign at the airport terminal pointing to the coiffeur/aideur?  
Yours, etc.  
SIMON CAVE,  
3 Model Cottages,  
East Sheen, SW14.  
January 31.

## Teaching of maths in primary schools

From Mr R. P. Welch  
Sir, When I read your report (January 31) that there has been a "sharp decline" in the performance of primary schoolchildren when applying their basic concepts and skills in more complex or unfamiliar settings, I dug out my own primary maths books, from the mid-fifties, to compare them with the work I am doing with a group of 20 comparable 11-year-olds at this school.

I found in my old books a much smaller volume of work, concentrated on excellence in a very few items. I found that when I was 10 I could work out by long division that £24.00, when divided by 25, was £3.15.6. I could also do it when I was eight. That sort of "sum" was about the peak of my achievement and it enabled me to sail through the 11-plus a year early. Our school was very well thought of locally.

A comparison with that level of computation might well show a decline in achievement, but my present children have studied decimals, fractions, geometry and shape, algebraic representation, statistics and graphwork to a far higher level than I did. They have a greater awareness of what maths is all about and they are now learning that most valuable of skills, particularly in the days of the calculator, the art of estimation.

I have no doubt that today's well taught children know and learn much more maths than did those children who were considered well taught 20 or more years ago. The less able child, too, is far better off, learning about more useful and interesting things than did his predecessors, who spent years miserably struggling over problems without ever grasping what they were all about. (He still has to learn his tables.)

If this report is really saying that there is more unsound teaching now than there used to be, and that maths is suffering in these bad classrooms along with other subjects, it may well be right. In a profession that pays peanuts there is bound to be some monkeys.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD WELCH,  
Headmaster,  
St Andrew's C of E Primary School,  
Chinnor,  
January 31.

## The road to Belgrade

From the Editor of *The Observer*  
Sir, Bernard Levin misrepresents me (January 23). I did not say that Soviet intervention in Yugoslavia was "unlikely". On the contrary I said: "That's the big danger—an infinitely bigger danger, even, than the invasion of Afghanistan, especially for European and American interests."

I pointed to the obvious fact that the Soviet Union does not share a common border with Yugoslavia and that in order to invade Yugoslavia it would need to move troops through Hungary (where it has six thousand troops) or Romania (where it has none). I expressed "the hope" (no more) that the attitude of the Romanians and Hungarians to such use of their territory would make the invasion of Yugoslavia more difficult for the Russians than the invasion of Afghanistan.

Mr Levin evidently believes that this hope is a forlorn or even foolish one; and given the ruthlessness of the Russians in Hungary in 1956, in Czechoslovakia in 1968, and now in Afghanistan, he may be right. But is by no means certain, as I put it on the radio, that the Hungarian and Romanian reaction could be predicted or ignored.

President Ceausescu has always refused Soviet troops access to Romania, even on manoeuvres, and his most recent speech suggests that this resolve has hardened since Afghanistan. The Hungarian Government's response would depend on the circumstances; it would be reluctant to assist the invasion of a fraternal land, but obviously could not stop the Russians if they were determined.

There must be some doubt, though, whether the Hungarian army, which is now a national force, would cooperate in the use of its land and facilities to quash the only type of Communism that offers Hungarians any hope. Even in 1956, the Hungarian Defence Minister, General Maléter, one of the most reliable figures in the Warsaw Pact since his tanks against the Russian invaders, Hungarians should never be taken for granted.

Yours faithfully,  
DONALD TRELFOED,  
The Observer,  
8 St Andrews Hill, EC4,  
January 23.

## Common law wives

From Mr J. Gwyn Jones  
Sir, In *The Times*, January 29, Trevor Fishlock mentions that your directions to your colleagues outlaw the use of the term "common law wife". Probation officers in their reports to courts find the referring to non-statutory partnerships between a man and a woman, and some years ago this incurred the wrath of a distinguished circuit judge.

I was asked to advise my colleagues that the term "common law wife" was applicable in only three circumstances, namely, a couple who were married at sea by a ship's captain; a couple married by dissenting ministers prior to 1953; and those married in a British consulate. (Being married in a British Embassy does not apply.)

Any acceptable alternatives would be appreciated, but not "mistress" or "spouse" please! Yours faithfully,  
J. GWYN JONES,  
Chief Probation Officer,  
Gwent Probation and After-Care Service,  
9 Gold Tops,  
Newport,  
Gwent,  
January 31.

## Amendment to the abortion law

From Cuman G. B. Bentley  
Sir, Dom Gregory Dix used to say that if, in an argument, someone started talking about the Holy Spirit, it was time to put your watch safely in an inside pocket. I think similar precautions need to be taken when the Bishop of Durham (letter, January 20) introduces the notion of "personhood" into the discussion of abortion.

Such obscurities aside, what are the facts? At conception a new, genetically complete centre of life comes into existence. To what species does it belong? *Homo sapiens*, surely. Therefore to destroy it is to destroy a human life.

We cannot escape that conclusion by magnifying the significance of birth, for there is patently no discontinuity between a life in the womb and the same life after birth has changed its environment.

There is therefore no essential difference between the ancient practice of exposing an unwanted child and the modern practice of killing him before birth. In either case a unique human existence is effectively terminated.

If then the law ought to protect human beings from others who find their existence inconvenient, it must protect them before birth no less than after; for protection after birth cannot benefit those who are killed before. Where deliberate killing is concerned, a "code of practice" is not enough.

Yours faithfully,  
G. B. BENTLEY,  
The Cloisters,  
Windsor Castle,  
Berkshire,  
January 30.

## From Dr Bryn Thwaites

Sir, There must be thousands, probably millions, of ordinary people like myself, having spent a lifetime doing their best to learn and practise the Anglican faith, find all too little guidance from their priests and in particular from their Church's hierarchy on fundamental issues.

Today's letter from the Bishop of Durham is a textbook example of how chief priests nowadays leave their flock suspended in mid-air without any means of support. Allow me, Sir, to take just two or three of his many incomprehensible points.

He first declares with utmost confidence that "all Christians" see (abortion) in terms of a difficult choice between evils. To begin with, this is a patently false assertion. Next it totally disregards the fact that evil comes in different forms which may be incommensurable.

And he then implies without any argument that his (spurious) choice is essentially difficult—in a later paragraph it has escalated to being "agonisingly difficult" in the context of his condemnation of "shrill certainties"—whereas it may be equally essentially simple.

Later he reminds us with apparent satisfaction that a C of E working party in the 1960s "refused to define the status of the fertilized ovum". If the Roman Catholic Church, not to mention other religions, can make this definition for the help and guidance of their adherents, why is our Anglican Church so unsure of itself? Is Protestantism now simply reduced to subjectivism?

As for the Bishop's last two paragraphs, they are completely irrelevant in content—they could refer to almost any aspect of society's activities from watching football matches through share dealing to housebreaking—and have no spiritual, religious or theological content whatsoever; and yet they represent, presumably, the learned

cleric's final conclusions on the matter.

To plagiarize the title of a brilliant lecture I recently heard: "what are the righteous doing?" Yours faithfully,  
BRYN THWAITES,  
Mildenhurst,  
Winchester,  
January 30.

## From Dr Colin Brewer

Sir, The Bishop of Durham's letter (January 30) goes to the very heart of the endless abortion debate. In questioning whether "human life" begins at conception, he makes a point which I have been trying to make in a different way by drawing attention to the fact that the intrauterine "contraceptive" device (the IUD or coil) actually works after conception by destroying the focus at a very early stage. It is therefore a pre-emptive abortifacient and the half million British IUD users probably abort more foetuses each year than the total number of registered abortions since the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act.

The IUD represents abortion on demand and as such it should surely be as vigorously opposed by anti-abortionists as abortion a little later in pregnancy. Alternatively, if they can accept abortion by the IUD, they must explain on what medical, moral or theological grounds they distinguish between the acceptable destruction of a three-day-old foetus and the unacceptable destruction of a three-week-old one.

Indeed, unless those who would restrict or prohibit abortion insist on some restrictions for the IUD, on the grounds that a foetus is just a small baby, then it means that they have effectively stepped arguing about the morality of abortion and are simply concerned, as I am, that it should be done as early as possible. And with existing techniques, an unwelcome pregnancy can be detected and terminated within two weeks of conception. Would not this be a more generally acceptable approach to the problem of abortion than that contained in Mr Corrie's Bill?

Yours, etc.  
COLIN BREWER,  
14 Abercorn Place, NW8,  
January 30.

## From Mr W. W. Hamilton, MP for Fife Central (Labour)

Sir, Mr Corrie either doesn't understand his own Abortion (Amendment) Bill, or else he is trying to conceal his intent.

His letter of January 30 implies that the criteria for obtaining an abortion remain as they were in the original 1967 Act.

But his most important amendment is Mr Corrie's insertion of the words "serious" and "substantial" when referring to the injury to the physical or mental health of the pregnant woman and to the risk of abortion, against continuing with the pregnancy.

These vague words are deliberately inserted to create doubt, uncertainty, and fear of prosecution, in the minds of doctors. The words are there despite the views of the authoritative Lane Committee that no such uncertainty should be created.

It is virtually every critical point, the Corrie Bill flies in the face of all reputable medical opinion, and against the known views of the government departments principally concerned.

It will be a bad day for Parliament, and for women, if the Bill ever reaches the Statute Book.

Yours sincerely,  
W. W. HAMILTON,  
House of Commons,  
January 31.

## Banishing Dr Sakharov

From Dr Alexander Shtramov  
Sir, As a Soviet lawyer and legal scientist and as a citizen of the USSR resident in this country, I should like to draw your attention to the fact that Michael Sinyov's statement in *The Times* (January 25) issue of your newspaper, saying that Dr Sakharov's banishment "is not illegal, as it was carried out under long-standing administrative regulations", is incorrect.

In the whole corps of published Soviet law now in force, such administrative regulations do not exist. If, however, such regulations could be found in the multitude of secret Soviet statutes (and no one without a special permit for access to Soviet state secrets can be sure whether it could or could not be), these regulations should be anyway considered as illegal and unconstitutional by Soviet legal standards themselves. For, according to Soviet law, banishment and exile are exclusively criminal punishments (Foundations of Criminal Legislation, article 21) and the 1977 new Soviet Constitution proclaims that: "No one can be... subjected to criminal punishment other than by the verdict of a court and in accordance with the law" (article 160).

It should be pretty obvious from the above that by banishing Academician Sakharov the Soviet authorities grossly violated not only the ordinary Soviet law but also the Constitution of the USSR, the same basic law of their country of which they so much boast and which they try so hard to use to their counter-propaganda efforts concerned with the presentation of the state of human rights in the Soviet Union.

Yours faithfully,  
ALEXANDER SHTRAMOV,  
Crescent House,  
The University,  
Salford,  
Lancashire,  
January 25.

## A grave in Naples

From Mr R. L. D. Jasper  
Sir, I have seen Miss Morton's letter in your issue of today (January 31) about the Old Protestant Cemetery at Naples.

I cannot comment on recent events at Naples. But there are two points which a retired officer once responsible for this question, I think that I can properly make.

First, before and during my time at Naples, and I imagine subsequently, attempts were made to get into touch with the families of those buried in the Old Cemetery, to raise an adequate fund for maintenance. The attempt made in my time evoked virtually no response at all.

We could not be expected to spot all connexions, and it may be that the Somerville connexion was not noticed. But a substantial number of organizations and eminent families interested in the often architecturally important—tombs of the early nineteenth century were written to. It was explained that at that time a minimum fund for maintenance was provided by what amounted to a small levy on current burials in the New Cemetery, that no other funds were available, and that meanwhile the Old Cemetery was slowly declining into ruin.

Secondly, it would be interesting to know how often, in say, the past 50 years Somerville College has officially visited its founder's grave

## Union troubles on concert platform

From Mr David Atherton and others

Sir, Although music, and particularly chamber music, is thought to be a liberal art and a field of free enterprise, a number of incidents have been reported during the last two months (in your own columns and elsewhere) where the Musicians' Union has found it necessary to intervene and prevent concerts, broadcasts and recordings from taking place as planned. (Groups and individuals involved include, for example, George Malcolm and the Academy of Ancient Music, together with the Decca and Phonogram recording companies.)

The resulting distress of public, sponsors and players suggests that not all these applications of rule XIV, para 8 (no member shall undertake an engagement to play with or in the same establishment as or engage a musician who is not a member...) are beneficial or even logical. A recent directive from Mr John Morton, general secretary of the union, has admitted three exceptions on "a rather slender constitutional basis", namely orchestral conductors, soloists with orchestras and "certain types of performance with bona fide amateur musicians".

A cursory glance through London concert plans announced for 1980 will reveal a large number of contracted engagements, many of them chamber music, which cannot go ahead if rule XIV.8 were to be strictly applied. Several of our leading ensembles, soloists and accompanists who are not members have for years assumed, apparently in error, that to perform with union members in small groups (not in the traditionally quoted maximum) was permissible.

Several distinguished foreign visitors have habitually flouted this ruling in well publicized London concerts, and both the English musicians and the English public appear eager that they should continue to give such performances (it would be sad never to hear the Anafanous give another performance of the "Trout" Quintet with an English bass player, and a lost to English wind players never to combine with Eranenholm for the Mozart piano and wind quintet).

Historically speaking, conductors are a recent invention. Music of the eighteenth century and earlier was that of a single player, the harpsichord or the violin, and recent revivals of "authentic" performance have proved the validity of this practice.

It would seem illogical of the union, therefore, not to extend to this form of direction the immunity it offers to the nineteenth and twentieth-century style of director. It would seem doubly illogical when a distinguished soloist is permitted to perform and direct a Mozart concerto, but must needs be replaced by a union player when he would attempt to direct a Mozart symphony in the same way. Yet that is how the rule would have it.

Since it would obviously be unjust to encourage a selective application of these union restrictions, we would like to emphasize the obvious need of a body representing the feelings of performers involved in "authentic" and chamber music to be available to advise the union on the detrimental effect that zealous and literal application of rule XIV.8 will have on these flourishing areas of English musical life.

It would be regretted by the undersigned if over-enthusiastic collectorist thinking were to lose Britain the undoubtedly lead she has in these fields and reduce what should be a liberal art to a deprived industry.

A suggestion of a conference to discuss the problem, and/or the recognition of a body to monitor the effects of union rules on the art should be construed, therefore, not as non-union, but simply as pro-music.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID ATHERTON,  
PATRICK CORMACK, MP,  
HAREWOOD,  
CHRISTOPHER HOGWOOD,  
GEORGE MALCOLM,  
NEVILLE MARRINER,  
SIMON ROST,  
ANTHONY ROOLEY,  
2 Claremont,  
Hills Road,  
Cambridge.

## Wasted advertising

From Mr N. E. Hampel  
Sir, For many years I have been amazed at the countless thousands of pounds spent on advertising by the national and industrial marketing their wares—particularly gas and electricity and to some extent coal, telephones, postal services, railways, etc. What a furious waste of our money, as frequently the customer has no choice, and if he has, the services are often unable to meet the resultant increased demand.

We are now told that was prices must increase dramatically in fuel, back sales and conserve supplies. Can we not save a great deal of public money by cutting out all marketing activity throughout national industries where a monopoly exists?

Yours faithfully,  
N. E. HAMPEL,  
Two Oaks,  
Slade Oak Lane,  
Denham, Buckinghamshire.

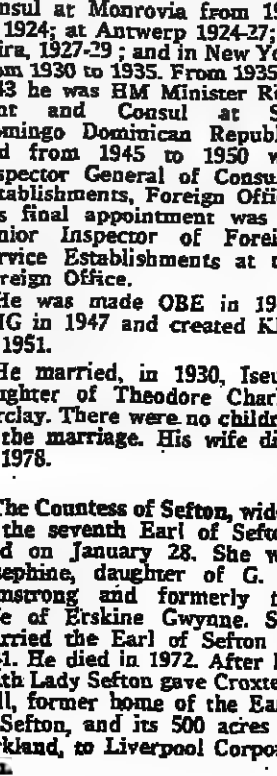
## The price of gas

From Chester Herald of Arms  
Sir, I cannot understand what is wrong with graduated charges for gas and electricity. Such a system works in the case of income tax and would surely provide the necessary deterrent against wasting fuel: the more you use the higher would become the tariff.

It is all very well to say that the needy must be reimbursed, but who pays the army officials required to deal with all the claims, and why should the old and the sick be obliged to struggle through wintry weather to queue and argue in civil government offices?

Yours truly,  
HUBERT CHESHYRE,  
College of Arms,  
Queen Victoria Street,  
London, EC4.







## SPORT

## Rugby Union

## England's chance to turn the tide

From Peter West  
Rugby Correspondent  
Paris, Feb. 2

It is difficult to believe that England's forwards can achieve against France the same remarkable degree of dominance as they did on Ireland a fortnight ago. They are confident of this, however, and the side as a whole, adrenaline flowing from their solid victory at Twickenham, believe they have their best chance of winning here for some time.

The last England success in this part of the world was over 16 years ago. This looks a good moment to turn the tide, because even those who doubt the home camp seem uncertain as to how they will react after the comprehensive beating they suffered at the hands of Wales. They came as a nasty shock to French players and spectators. They had achieved a historic win over New Zealand in Auckland last summer.

England now face a French pack altered in four respects from the one employed at close quarters by the Welsh, and now including two new caps.

Carpentier, a 20-year-old No. 8, with only two months' experience of first-class rugby, who made his mark in the second half of the match against Scotland.

Against Scotland, the other is a lock and number four, who has been in the second row, which is where he played in New Zealand, replaces Pato, who has taken umbrage at the omission

and announced his retirement from international football. He was a lot like his first wife Graham Price in Cardiff, remains his position in the head prop. Mallett, having run into transfer problems from one club to another, is short on match play, having played only two games in the last two seasons. He should give the front five more mobility but, having back to the days of

## Today's teams at Parc des Princes

France		England	
S. Gabeton (Toulon)	15	Full back	W. H. Hart
D. Bortolotto (Toulon)	14	Right wing	J. Carleton (Oxford)
R. Bertrame (Toulon)	13	Right centre	C. R. Woodward (Leicester)
D. Coudane (Narbonne)	12	Left centre	N. J. Preston (Leicester)
J.-L. Ayerous (Toulon)	11	Left wing	M. A. C. Stenson (Leicester)
A. Cussade (Toulon)	10	Stand-off	J. P. Horton (Bath)
J. Gallon (Toulon)	9	Scrum half	S. J. Smith (Bath)
P. Salas (Toulon)	8	Prop	F. E. Cotton (Sale)
P. Dintans (Paris)	7	Hooker	F. J. Wheeler (Leicester)
R. Pagenbörde (Toulon)	6	Prop	F. J. Wheeler (Leicester)
Y. Duhart (Bordeaux)	5	Lock	W. B. Beaumont (Sale)
A. Mallet (Toulon)	4	Lock	M. J. Coleman (Leicester)
J.-P. Rives (Toulon)	3	Flanker	R. M. Utley (Warrington)
M. Carpentier (Toulon)	2	No. 8	J. Carleton (Oxford)
J.-L. Joliet (Toulon)	1	Flanker	A. Neary (Cardiff)

Referee: G. Northing (Wales)

Finishing touch to an advanced career which has run its elementary course

## How a man profited by another's misfortune

By David Hands

The vagaries of the England rugby selectors may make it seem a little strange that a man who has been playing for the last 10 years for the same club should be selected for the England squad.

For the moment, however, the stage belongs to the latest comer of these three, Woodward, who has been playing for the last 10 years for the same club.

Woodward, who won his first cap as a replacement against Ireland last month and plays his first full game against France in Paris today.

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## Park trip up off the field but not on it

By Alan Gibson

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## Wales and Leeds will contest Stevenson ban

Football

Leeds United are reading under the

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# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

مكتبة الأخبار

Personal  
investment and  
finance,  
pages 18 and 19

**Stock markets**  
FT Ind 447.8 down 5.5  
FT Gilt 66.45 down 0.82

**Sterling**  
\$2.2740 up 70 points  
Index 72.0 up 0.2

**Dollar**  
Index 85.2 up 0.1

**Gold**  
\$677.5 up \$27.5

**Money**  
3 month Sterling 171 to 172  
3 month Euro \$ 14 1/2 to 14 3/4  
6 month Euro \$ 14 1/2 to 14 3/4

### IN BRIEF

## Barclays step nearer to US acquisition

Barclays Bank has won the approval of the New York Federal Reserve Bank to buy 31 branches with deposits of \$365m (£261.5m) from the Bankers Trust Company.

The acquisition will boost the total assets of the Barclays New York Corporation, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Barclays International, to close to \$1,000m (nearly £443m).

A spokesman for Barclays noted that the bank still needs the approval of the New York state banking authorities to go ahead with the branch acquisition.

### Sanctions rejected

British businessmen have rejected unilateral trade sanctions by Britain against the Soviet Union after the invasion of Afghanistan. A Confederation of British Industry delegation, led by its president Sir John Gresham, has made its views clear at a meeting with Lord Carrington at the Foreign Office yesterday.

### New bank chairman



Signor Rinaldo Ossola, former Foreign Trade Minister, has been appointed chairman of Banco di Napoli, a publicly controlled bank and the largest in the South of Italy.

### Ford raises prices

Ford is to raise its car prices in Britain by an average of 4 per cent from Monday. The company said the increases, which follow average rises of 3.8 per cent in November and 4.8 per cent last June, reflected rises in production costs.

### Aerospace recovery

Britain's aerospace exports recovered in November after a two-month drop after last year's engineering strike. The total £110,939,000 for the month, bringing the eleven-month total for January-November 1979 to £1,156,924,000.

### Coal Board grants

The National Coal Board is to receive grants totalling £7.27 million under account (4.8m) to help finance research into coal mining and processing technology, the European Commission announced yesterday.

### Dow Jones average up

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 5.63 to close at 881.48. The volume of shares traded on the New York stock exchange fell 17 million from the 65.9 million traded on Thursday. The \$SDR was 1.3188 and the \$SDR was 0.505474.

## Recall of £500m special deposits postponed to aid money markets

By John Whitmore  
Financial Correspondent

The Bank of England is to defer next week's planned recall of special deposits from the banking system to avoid aggravating the present shortage of funds in the money markets.

The decision means that the bank will retain some £500m for their everyday use that they would otherwise have had to place back on deposit at the Bank of England next Friday.

Arrangements for the recall of a further £500m on March 7 stand, however, and the funds originally scheduled to be recalled next Friday will now become due on April 8.

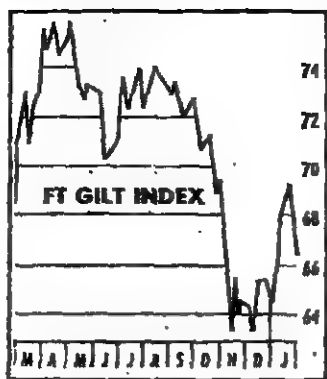
The Bank's move does not represent any relaxation of monetary policy. It is simply a temporary measure to prevent short-term interest rates from going sky-high during a period in which money is flowing strongly out of the banking system into the hands of the Exchequer.

On top of the normal seasonal flow of tax payments to the Exchequer, the private sector has also been a heavy buyer of government securities over recent weeks. Large tax payments are expected to continue through most of February, while "calls" on government stock already sold will require financing to the tune of £500m.

In addition, subscribers to last October's sale of BP shares will have to put up a further £170m next week to complete payment for their stock.

The recent shortage of funds in the money markets has meant that the Bank of England has had to give large assistance to the discount houses on a regular basis, with the daily help sometimes exceeding £1,000m.

Inevitably short-term interest rates have been extremely firm, with money for periods of up to three months costing at least 17 per cent and on some days



appreciably more on an overnight basis.

The fact that next Friday's recall of special deposits has been put back to April 8 does not automatically mean that there is no possibility of the Bank of England's minimum lending rate (MLR) being cut before that date.

Where there sufficient signs of improvement in the underlying monetary situation over the next few weeks, the Chancellor could still decide to cut MLR around the time of his Budget on March 26.

However, financial markets are increasingly uncertain as to how soon they should expect an MLR reduction and this uncertainty, coupled with the continuing high cost of borrowed short-term funds, led to a sharp increase in Treasury Bill rates at yesterday's weekly tender.

Three month bills were allotted at an average rate of discount of 16.185 per cent compared with 15.743 per cent the previous Friday.

Uncertainty over the future course of interest rates, anxiety about the change marks the figures for the January banking month and continuing indecision after January heavy stock purchases, again weighed on prices yesterday.

Restriction agreed for this year but voluntary limit on shipments doubtful in 1981

## Japan may end curbs on car sales to UK

By Edward Townsend

Japanese car makers are now almost certain to impose a voluntary restriction on shipments of vehicles to the United Kingdom this year but are likely to scrap their policy of restraint in 1981.

This has emerged from the meeting in Mexico earlier this week between leaders of Britain's Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and the Japanese Automobile Manufacturers Association.

The Japanese made clear their dissatisfaction with restrictions that have held back their share of the British market to under 11 per cent for the past four years.

According to the SMMT yesterday the Japanese association said after the talks that it hoped the country's car manufacturers would continue to be

"prudent" about exports to Britain.

It was thought significant that the Japanese used the word "hoped" in their statement, implying that 1980 would be the last year that a voluntary restraint would be in place.

The Japanese importing companies in the United Kingdom have become increasingly vociferous about the effect that restrictions have had on the market. They claim that although the restraint was agreed originally to help British Leyland recover its market position, European manufacturers have taken advantage of BL's problems and have mounted aggressive and unrestricted sales campaigns in Britain.

Imported cars now account for almost 60 per cent of the new car market in the United Kingdom, double the level of 1975. Last week the largest of the companies importing Japanese cars, Datsun UK, launched a controversial advertising campaign protesting that the restriction had only benefited continental competitors.

Datsun dealers, it said, had been scapegoats for the high level of imports into Britain.

Industry leaders in Britain have admitted that Japan has been singled out but have stressed that trade in motor products between the United Kingdom and the rest of Europe is far greater than that between the United Kingdom and Japan.

In 1979, European manufacturers bought British components worth £500m compared with Japanese purchases of less than £10m.

Although there has been no direct pressure on the Japanese from the British Government to restrict car exports to the United Kingdom, it has been made clear that action could be

taken if there was no agreement on an industry-to-industry basis.

The Japanese car makers' trade association appears to have agreed to a fifth year of restraint, it is significant that there has been no mention of a restriction of market share.

Britain's new car market this year is widely forecast to fall from last year's record 1.7 million units to 1.5 million and may be even lower. If Japanese shipments were based on their capturing a market share similar to that of 1979 their actual sales in Britain would be likely to drop for the first time.

Total sales of Japanese cars in Britain last year were 185,084. If the same level is repeated in 1980 it would represent more than 12 per cent of the expected sales.

John Earle writes from Rome: The Italian Government has set up a working group to look into

the difficulties of the nation's car industry. Its members

from the ministry of industry, budget, labour and state-owned industry will investigate particularly the industry's loss of ground in Europe and ways of increasing its market share in the 1980s.

The two biggest manufacturers are both going through adverse periods. Fiat, whose management emphasises that the financial situation remains sound, has been facing industrial strife and a wave of terrorism. Its share of the Italian market has fallen from two thirds in the 1960s to half.

The state-owned Alfa Romeo concern is trying to ensure its survival through an agreement under negotiation with Nissan, provided government and union consent can be obtained to dismantling the present protective barrier against Japanese penetration.

## Rockwell pays £10m for stake in Serck

By Alison Mitchell

Rockwell International, the American aerospace and electronics giant, has paid £10m yesterday for a 29.7 per cent stake in the British valves group Serck. Rockwell bought the shares rapidly yesterday morning at 75p each in the stock market.

Although the group says it has taken the holding as an investment, and is looking for a "closer relationship" with Serck, there is speculation that Rockwell will make a full bid.

The shares which started trading at 52p ended the day 17p higher at 69p. The net asset value of Serck, including deferred tax, amounts to 57.3p a share. As yet both sides are noncommittal on takeover prospects but a meeting between the two groups has been arranged for next week.

Mr 75p Serck is capitalised at £32m. This compares with the £36m cash and share offer made three years ago by Associated Engineering—a bid which was not allowed by the Monopolies Commission.

At that time Serck was gaining profit and was able to almost treble the dividend as a defence tactic. No such play will be available to the board at present because in December the group was forced to cut the final dividend.

Pre-tax profit in the year to September 30, 1979, fell from £5m to £1.6m and the group had to close the loss-making tubes division. However, demand has picked up and forecasts for the current year, provided the group is not too badly affected by the steel strike, are expected to recover to around the £5m level.

Rockwell and Serck, which are in the same valves business, have in the past been involved in joint ventures. In 1968 they set up Audco to market valves worldwide. Serck bought out Rockwell's share in 1972.

Mr Ronald Martin, chairman of Serck, said last night that the purchase of the holding had taken him by surprise and that the board would wait until after meeting Rockwell before deciding on any course of action.

## John Brown sells entire holding in Westland

By Philip Robinson

Engineering group John Brown sold its entire 16.4 per cent stake in Westland Aircraft yesterday for £6.3m cash.

The 9.7 million shares went through the market to a number of institutions at 70p, a 7 per cent discount on the market price at 10 am yesterday.

Westland's share price, down 31p after the deal to 74p, peaked last month at 81p following a strong profits recovery and an encouraging annual report.

John Brown held a shade over half the shares before the Second World War. It had allowed its holding to be diluted and the 16.4 per cent stake was in the books at £4.6m.

Mr John Mayhew-Sanders, the John Brown chairman, said: "The share held around 16 per cent or about four or five years. It was always on the cards that we would sell it and with the price its highest for some time it seemed the right time to sell. There was no other reason for it."

Figures were reiterated yesterday for John Brown's shareholders in the group's Class I circular outlining the agreed bid for American textile and plastics machinery group Lessons Corporation for \$80m (£35.2m), unveiled last week. Lessons' own balance sheet shows borrowings at \$5.3m and cash of \$6.7m.

The circular also shows the first time the profits record of Lessons, for which John Brown is paying net asset value per share of \$40.

Six years ago the American group's profits were \$10.1m on sales of \$114m. That was the highest they reached until 1978 when the reorganisation of its textile operations and the purchase of plastics group Egan Machinery took pre-tax profits from \$3.1m to \$10.6m.

By customers in Belgium, Switzerland and New Zealand. As part of Argon International's European marketing, the company is setting up subsidiary companies in Amsterdam and Frankfurt.

Mr John Pearce, architect of Insac and now managing director of the Argon Group, said yesterday that about £4m had been invested to date by Insac/Argon in viewdata.

At that time the company planned to continue a small-scale polyester operation in Ulster with a weekly output of only 53 tonnes. From the beginning this reduced operation was adversely affected by imports from the United States.

Courtaulds' polyester production had already been run down to only a fraction of its former level with the redundancy of 590 Ulster workers last September—a move which included the complete closure of a retexturing factory at Maydown near Londonderry.

At that time the company planned to continue a small-scale polyester operation in Ulster with a weekly output of only 53 tonnes. From the beginning this reduced operation was adversely affected by imports from the United States.

Closure will mean the loss of 124 staff and shop floor jobs at Larne and 96 at Carrickfergus.

Ironically Courtaulds' decision was announced as Herr Wilk Hefkamp, the EEC commissioner for external affairs, was expected in the province to assess the situation in the synthetic fibres industry for himself.

Peter Norman writes: The European Commission has decided that the sharp rise in imports of low-cost synthetic fibres from the United States is a regional problem and will therefore not propose Community measures to stem the flow.

## Iran follows Saudi oil move with \$2.50 rise

By Nicholas Hirst  
Energy Correspondent

Iran has raised the price of its light crude oil by \$2.50 a barrel to a base price of \$31 with effect from yesterday.

The new price will be applied to all customers. As a result the average cost of the contracts, totalling 225,000 barrels a day, signed with Shell and British Petroleum will rise to \$32.50. Half of Iranian oil sold on contract is subject to a \$3 premium over the base price.

The Iranian move follows Saudi Arabia's decision to increase the price of its light crude oil, which is the same quality as the Iranian light, from \$24 to \$26 a barrel, in a second attempt to restore unity to the Opec pricing structure.

Rises of \$2 a barrel by Iraq, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, in the wake of the Saudi decision, have left the international oil market in a great disarray as it was after

the indecisive conclusion of Opec's meeting in Caracas, Venezuela, in December.

By putting a further 50 cents on the Saudi increase, Iran is tempting other countries to follow with similar adjustments of their own. Iran, however, has been considered as a maverick, not fitting into any of the pricing groups which have emerged over the past month.

Britain's oil companies are awaiting a decision on further price rises by the North African producers. Nigeria is charging \$30 a barrel, Libya an effective \$34.72 and Algeria an effective \$33.

It is thought that with spot prices having fallen in a between \$30 and \$33 some prices are already looking on the high side, and another increase would be insupportable. Market analysts expect it would be more likely that a \$2 rise might be put on the Libya base price of \$30.

## Takeover Panel calls for meeting on St Piran

By Michael Pratt

The Takeover Panel has invited Mr Jim Raper, the Far East financier alleged to be the moving force behind the takeover of St Piran, to attend a meeting on March 21.

Mr Raper will be asked to comment on whether or not he has formed a "concert party" with Gasco Investments and various nominee shareholders in St Piran whereby he would control 30 per cent of St Piran and therefore trigger off a bid under Rule 34 of the Takeover Code.

Gasco Investments, of which Mr Raper is chairman, holds 29.6 per cent of St Piran. But Mr Raper himself holds only 1,000 shares in the company. Critics of St Piran's management claim that Mr Raper's hand extends to nominee companies in Luxembourg and Panama.

A Takeover Panel investigation has been in progress since November. St Piran confirms that a meeting under the auspices of the Takeover Panel will be held for January 18, well before the deadline for a bid. It is expected that the meeting will be attended by all parties concerned.

Asked if he thought Mr Raper would attend the March meeting, Mr Malcolm Stone, St Piran's chairman, said: "I would imagine he will make an effort to attend." Mr Stone, who is also managing director of Gasco, added that St Piran was consulting other shareholders to obtain affidavits that no "concert party" existed.

## Fed to keep tight grip on economy

From Our United States Economics Correspondent  
Washington, Feb 1

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, assured Congress today that America's monetary policy would remain tight until inflation was reduced. He warned the markets that declines in interest rates, which might occur due to weak credit demand, should not be seen as any easing in the Central Bank's policies.

Mr Volcker told the joint economic committee of Congress that he was still unsure whether or not the economy was now in a recession. He indicated that he would have liked to have seen a more restrictive budget than the one proposed by President Carter this week. He said there was a danger that increased military spending might boost the estimated 1981 budget deficit of \$15,000m (about £7,000m).

Meanwhile, the Department of Labour announced an increase in unemployment here, but Dr Janet Norwood, the commissioner of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, stressed that the "It would be premature on the basis of findings for a single month to conclude at this time that a major downturn (in the economy) is underway."

Unemployment rose in December by 340,000 to 6.2 per cent from 5.9 per cent in November. This marks the first time in 18 months that the rate has moved outside the range of 5.7 to 5.9 per cent.

Mr Volcker suggested that tighter money policies appeared to be raising expectations of price stability, but these expectations, had been weakened again by oil price increases. He said he was satisfied with the way money supply growth appeared to be developing.

## Two-way viewdata systems announced by NEB subsidiary

By Kenneth Owen  
Technology Editor

A change of name and an impressive new product were announced yesterday by Insac Viewdata, the National Enterprise Board's subsidiary which develops and sells improved versions of the Post Office's Prestel television-based information system.

The new name is Argon, derived from the Greek for "helper" and judged appropriate to a company concerned with easy-to-use computer equipment. The change marks the final step in the separation of the two parts of the Insac operation—software products (now handled by Insac Products) and viewdata systems.

The new product is a range of viewdata systems known as the IVS-3, which was developed for Argon by Systems Designers Ltd (SDL) of Camberley, Surrey. It will be marketed in the United Kingdom by SDL and overseas—except the United States—by Argon International, one of the two main operating companies within the Argon Group.

The Post Office's Prestel is essentially a one-way information service in which the user, at home or in the office, uses the telephone to call up the required pages, held in a central computer, which are displayed on a television screen.

Mr F. Wiles, said yesterday: "All the people who are going have got good reasons. The board have discussed cash payments to them but these still have to be finished. Any gratuity payments will be reported in the annual report and accounts."

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Closure will mean the loss of 124 staff and shop floor jobs at Larne and 96 at Carrickfergus.

Ironically Courtaulds' decision was announced as Herr Wilk Hefkamp, the EEC commissioner for external affairs, was expected in the province to assess the situation in the synthetic fibres industry for himself.

Peter Norman writes: The European Commission has decided that the sharp rise in imports of low-cost synthetic fibres from the United States is a regional problem and will therefore not propose Community measures to stem the flow.

John Huxley



Alan Holmes, manager of Systems Designers' Viewdata Division, demonstrates the new IVS-3 viewdata system.

permits the user to insert as well as to consult information on the files. Thus it can be used as a multi-purpose communications medium within an organisation, handling messages, standard forms, management reports and graphics.

A typical IVS-3 system with 16 terminals might cost about £25,000, the software would account for about a third. Orders have already been placed

by customers in Belgium, Switzerland and New Zealand. As part of Argon International's European marketing, the company is setting up subsidiary companies in Amsterdam and Frankfurt.

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John Huxley

## Mr du Cann resigns from Cannon

Mr Edward du Cann, who has been chairman of Cannon Assurance for the past seven years, has resigned, along with several other directors. He is to be replaced by Mr Alfred Singer, a non-executive director of Guinness Mahon and a former chairman of the Trustees of the Post Office Pension Fund.

Mr du Cann, the Conservative member of Parliament for Taunton, gives his reason for leaving the company as pressure of public and other duties. However, it has not yet been made clear whether he will be receiving any compensation for loss of office.

The new managing director Mr F. Wiles, said yesterday: "All the people who are going have got good reasons. The board have discussed cash payments to them but these still have to be finished. Any gratuity payments will be reported in the annual report and accounts."

At the time the company planned to continue a small-scale polyester operation in Ulster with a weekly output of only 53 tonnes. From the beginning this reduced operation was adversely affected by imports from the United States.

Closure will mean the loss of 124 staff and shop floor jobs at Larne and 96 at Carrickfergus.

Ironically Courtaulds' decision was announced as Herr Wilk Hefkamp, the EEC commissioner for external affairs, was expected in the province to assess the situation in the synthetic fibres industry for himself.

Peter Norman writes: The European Commission has decided that the sharp rise in imports of low-cost synthetic fibres from the United States is a regional problem and will therefore not propose Community measures to stem the flow.

John Huxley

## Government cuts back on business questionnaires Companies welcome loss of form

Government has concluded—after almost 18 months of soul-searching—that it can muddle along with less information about industry. It means that small businesses will be relieved of some of the burden of official form-filling.

Whitehall officials have just completed a review of their statistical inquiries. They discovered that, not counting the Department of Employment's annual census on jobs, 241 such surveys required the cooperation of small companies.

Each year, the companies—under Government definition employ fewer than 200 people—were

sent more than 1.5 million forms to be filled. It has now been decided that 15 will be discontinued and small businesses will be excluded from a further five surveys.

The number of surveys—and is—small. But, yesterday, Mr David Mitchell, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Industry, explained that it meant that the number of forms sent annually to small businesses would be reduced by about 27,000, or 18 per cent.

Moreover, he said in a Parliamentary answer, further 342,000 forms, representing 22 per cent of the total, had been "simplified to some extent."

The Department of Employment is looking separately at the possibility of asking small businesses fewer questions. Department of Industry officials are still collecting details of the inquiries which are being abandoned. One survey now certain not to go ahead is the 1981 retail shops census.

Last November, Mr Mitchell told the Small Business Bureau that a column of questionnaires as high as Big Ben had already been presented from landing on the desks of small businesses because of rigorous scrutiny and tighter control.

John Huxley

## PRICE CHANGES

Rises			
Grivetties	20c to 830c	Stratford	50c to 725c
Guthrie Corp	15p to 724p	Seck	17c to 591
Howard Mach	4p to 21p	Land	17c to 875c
Jacks W	30p to 42p	Wholesale Fit	35p to 495p
Killinghall	5p to 460p	Wood & Sons	4p to 34p

Falls			
Andronic	1p to 7p	Peko Wallace	15p to 465p
Barker & Doherty	21p to 29p	Racal	15p to 224p
Brown Hill	20p to 655p	Tras	10p to 246p
Metals Box	12p to 238p	Town & City	12p to 18p
Northgate Ex	50p to 585p	Whitlams	2p to 18p

## THE POUND

	Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
	buys	seeds	buys	seeds</



## Top-up mortgages

## 'Take it or leave it' attitude by insurers

According to Mr Leonard Hines, chairman of the Life Offices Association, last year saw "a substantial demand for life policies taken out in connection with house purchase". Although there are no exact figures showing just how much business house purchasers put insurance companies' way, it is a valuable source of business.

"Topping up" mortgages, offered by a limited but increasing number of offices as a means of financing house purchase, also allow insurance companies to increase their endowment business, though in a small way.

Insurance companies will top up a loan when you are still short of funds after obtaining a maximum building society mortgage. But it is not yet needed for an extra loan that the insurance company has in mind in offering these mortgages. It is basically a public relations, or goodwill, exercise with insurance brokers and a way of drumming up further endowment assurance business for themselves. Do not drop into your local office; you will probably be referred back to an insurance broker or agent.

The amount of money that insurance companies are prepared to lend in "top up" mortgages is limited, although "substantially" up on last year. Normally, investment managers can find more than five homes for their funds, although few will sneeze at the 16-17 per cent they can get on home loans at present.

The strong demand for mortgages combined with restricted funds means that insurance companies can dictate the terms

on which they will advance money, adopting a "take it or leave it" attitude.

How much they will lend depends both on your income and the type of home you wish to buy. Further provisos are that the total advance should not exceed a particular percentage of the price. Sometimes this is as much as 90 per cent, but a less generous 75-80 per cent is more usual.

But this can be further reduced by both the maximum office and the maximum amount the insurance company will lend—which can vary between £5,000 and £25,000 depending on the office concerned—and the percentage of the building society loan that the office is prepared to offer. This is often as little as one third, although some offices will match the building society loan in the right circumstances.

Interest rates charged by life offices for top-up loans are normally 1 or 2 per cent above the building society recommended rate of 15 per cent. But as building societies often charge higher rates of interest for larger advances, it does not necessarily mean that the borrower will be paying more than if the whole mortgage were funded by a building society.

About half the offices in this field charge a fixed rate of interest throughout the period of the loan rather than reviewing it when the general level of interest rates alters. Taking out a top-up mortgage when interest rates are high can prove an expensive exercise. It may not be possible, but try to avoid a fixed rate contract at these levels.

There are strings attached to a top-up mortgage. The insurance company insists that both the building society loan and its own is repaid through its own endowment assurance policy. This is understandable. Less forgivable is the fact that because life offices want to maximize their premium income on this sort of business, they will not allow the whole package to be covered by a low-cost endowment policy, the new traditional cheap way of financing an endowment mortgage.

In some cases the offices will not even let you pay off the building society loan through a low-cost endowment. You therefore have the choice of financing the entire loan by a with-profit endowment—at a cost which can be prohibitive for some borrowers—or a non-profit type. This policy demands smaller monthly payments, but has little place in financial planning in inflationary times, especially if the mortgage is redeemed early.

Some offices insist that their part of the loan is financed through a non-profit endowment. The table shows the monthly costs of a typical package, covered by different insurance policies.

Unfortunately, there is little choice if it comes to which insurance company will advance the funds and the policies that have to be taken out for the plan. It is a question of pay up or go without.

Sylvia Morris

## MORTGAGE PAYMENTS

Monthly cost of a £20,000 endowment mortgage over 25 years, assuming a £13,000 advance from a building society, plus a £7,000 top-up mortgage from an insurance company.

Gross cost of building society mortgage. Gross cost of insurance company mortgage.

Insurance policy	Interest	Insurance premium*	Interest	Insurance premium*	Total goes out	Total net cost to basic rate tax payer
With-profits endowment	£165.21	£49.77	£98.17	£7.03	£341.18	£248.43
Low-cost endowment	£165.21	£23.77	£98.17	£7.03	£315.10(a)	£223.83(a)
Non-profit endowment	£165.21	£29.71	£98.17	£15.89	£303.84(b)	£217.82(b)
					£309.78	£221.64

\* Assumes insurance policy taken out with Legal & General by man aged 30 next birthday.

† Low-cost endowment not available for top-up mortgages, see (a) and (b).

(a) With-profit endowment used to cover top-up mortgage.

(b) Non-profit endowment used to cover top-up mortgage.

## Grouse

Land registration began in 1897 and was intended to make the transfer of property more simple, efficient, speedy and cheap. More than 80 years later registration is compulsory in areas inhabited by about three quarters of the population—yet it is quite possible for transfer costs to be lower in unregistered areas than in those where registration applies.

The Royal Commission on Legal Services noted, quite complacently, that registration during transfer could cause the charges to exceed those that would apply to unregistered property.

Until January, 1973, when statutory scales of fees for solicitors' conveyancing were abolished, in the case of a £25,000 house the fee in respect of registered land would have been little more than half that in respect of unregistered land. The difference in costs was sharply reduced,

and in some cases eliminated, as soon as scale fees were abolished.

Solicitors claim that the need to investigate title is no longer as significant a factor in costs as it was.

It leaves the question for whose benefit land registration is intended? The Land Registry fee on a £30,000 house is at present £47 on first registration (one quarter of all transactions at present involve first registration) and £74 on every subsequent transfer (more than half the total of transactions involve paying land registry fees at the higher rate).

Almost all the benefits that this money buys goes to the solicitors, by simplifying their work without appreciably lessening their charges. Little wonder consumers are not consulted when it is decided what new areas should be designated for compulsory registration.

## Investor's week

## The market dithers on steel strike worries

We doubted, we dithered, we fussed and we fretted this week. But did we, under the lengthening shadows of the steel strike and the budget on March 26, do anything else?

Of course. We decided to wait and see. The FT index moved from 452.4 to 447.8.

City folk are no longer nonchalant about steel. At the start the strike could be shrugged off. There was plenty of steel in stock up and down the country.

But soon steel will run out. Then, if no deal is fixed, industry in general and BL (Leyland to most people) will close.

The trouble is that the City wants it both ways. It fears the inflationary cost of a surrender to the steelmen. It also wants the British Steel Corporation and its paymaster, the Government, to keep industry running. Eventually, it will probably be granted this last wish. But this will not be good for gilt-edged stocks or shares.

Meanwhile, unease grips the gilt-edged market. It is not a case of indignation after the previous week's mistakes in tendering for government stock. The Chancellor has obviously not got government borrowing under control.

Value-added tax revenue is coming in too slowly; the EEC is not obliging Mr Thatcher over cuts in our contribution; and the problem remains that if Sir Geoffrey Howe's Britain produces one per cent less than Mr Hesley's, and spends one per cent less in the public sector, the borrowing requirement does not fall. The City waits for the Government to my hanger.

For solace, investors had little in the way of companies reporting to distract them, save for BAT, whose profits were lowered by a strong pound, and Associated Dairies, which earned interim profits of £22.5m against £15m, but before starting another battle in the grocery price war.

We marvelled at Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey's ability to pay about £41m for nearly a fifth of Lombe, but he has not got it yet; and two big favourites nearly came good. Vaux Breweries got £21m for its Scottish outlets from Allied Breweries, but not a bid; while Serck shot up on US Rockwell's purchase of a 30 per cent stake and request for talks about getting closer.

PW

## MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

Year's high	Year's low	Company	Change	Comment
			Rises	
131p	75p	Allied Textile	9p to 98p	Good yearly figs
179p	93p	Caffyns	36p to 179p	Brit Car Auctions stake
243p	128p	Ladbroke	12p to 159p	Big talk
493p	315p	Solihby PB	25p to 495p	US buying; inflation
181p	121p	Vaux	14p to 150p	Allied Brew's deal
			Falls	
189p	114p	Beecham	11p to 117p	Drug price cut fears
162p	126p	Dowly	18p to 158p	Int figs due Wed
600p	388p	Glaxo	13p to 470p	Drug price cut fears
358p	220p	Metals Box	12p to 238p	Steel strike; key-opts
264p	148p	Tricentral	16p to 262p	Sector profit-taking

## Law

## When leasehold can be a better buy

The vast majority of flats and maisonettes in England and Wales are leasehold, so that the tenant is entitled to stay there for a fixed number of years only. Admittedly, when his lease comes to an end he usually has the right to an extension by virtue of the Rent Acts; but, even so, a flat or maisonette held on a short lease, say three or five years, is seldom salable.

Now it is easy to borrow on a short lease. The key to the problem is the length of the repayment period. Generally a lease which has less than 30 years to run where the borrower requests a repayment period of 20 years.

On the other hand, a borrower who can repay over 10 years will usually be able to get a loan on a 30-year lease. The normal rule of thumb is that the lender will want at least 20 years plus whatever period is sought for repayment. No matter how desirable the property, such a safety margin is needed in case the building society has to take possession and sell the flat in the event of non-payment.

On the other hand, a flat with a long lease of, say, 50 or 99 years, is a valuable asset. In general, the longer the lease, the more it is worth and the easier it is to borrow on the strength of it.

Buying a flat is much more complicated than buying a freehold house, which is unlikely to be subject to more than the odd restrictive covenant or two. Leases are almost invariably complex and sometimes virtually unintelligible.

Few lawyers these days take the trouble to discuss a lease in detail with the prospective buyer. The photocopying machine has enabled them to avoid this chore. They simply send a copy and invite him to read it through himself and to raise queries only on the parts he does not understand.

For the layman one of the most mysterious clauses relates to forfeiture. It gives the landlord the right to forfeit the lease and re-take possession if rent is unpaid for 21 days or more or if the tenant has committed a breach of covenant. Lawyers explain that in practice this clause is seldom

**FOR SALE**

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**205-3088**

Photograph by John Manning

The longer the lease of a flat or maisonette the more valuable the asset.

strictly enforceable because the court will always extend the period stipulated in the lease so as to give the tenant relief from forfeiture provided he carries out his obligations within a reasonable time.

In any case, apart from rent in arrears, he will always be sent a prior warning notice in the statutory form, before court proceedings.

The sting in the tail of many leases lies in the heavy service charges which the landlord is entitled to levy in addition to the rent. These are not itemised in the lease itself and vary from year to year. They represent the particular flat's share of the cost of repair and upkeep of the entire building—its common parts, lifts, lighting, power, central heating and all the other services and amenities which the landlord undertakes to provide.

Last year's service charges are not necessarily indicative of next year's. The danger for an incoming tenant is that he may walk straight into paying towards the cost of a new lift or a new roof.

This sort of latent liability

can only be uncovered by careful inquiry of the managing agents. Often the people who best know what is in the wind are the porters.

At first glance, a freehold flat appears to be a better investment than a leasehold because (a) it is owned in perpetuity; (b) there is no rent to pay; and (c) it cannot be forfeited for breach of obligation.

Surprisingly, freehold flats are far less common in England than in Scotland. This is due to an historical anomaly of English law which says that positive covenants, which involve the expenditure of money, are not binding on a freehold. This means that anyone buying a freehold flat in England can ignore repairing covenants with impunity.

It came as a shock to Mrs E. Robinson when both the Halifax and the Abbey National turned down her application for a mortgage on a freehold flat. "Our regulation manual forbids lending on freehold flats and maisonettes," she was solemnly told.

Telephoning the head office of the Halifax, she learnt that

a freehold flat could be a hazardous investment, besides being an undesirable security for the building society itself. "You cannot be sure that the other flat owners in the block will carry out repairs. If your neighbour in the flat upstairs or downstairs lets his flat get into a dilapidated condition and you cannot make him carry out repairs, you are in trouble."

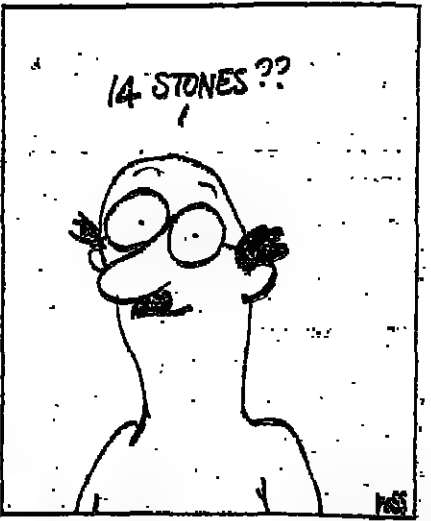
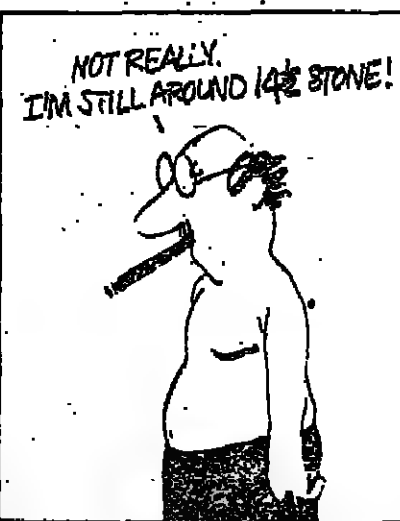
Parliament has ignored a long-standing recommendation of the Law Commission to change the law to make positive covenants binding on a freehold. Consequently, while freehold flats are common north of the border and in the EEC, they are looked upon with disfavour in England and Wales, except by certain housing associations.

There is one exception. Where a freehold house has been divided into two flats, one of which is let on a long lease, most societies will lend on security of the flat which remains and which is still freehold, since it comprises the original freehold of the entire house.

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Ronald Irving

## HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



BY BOSS

1900 year

## National Savings

## Old issues for new? Check your timing if you want to switch

On Monday the 19th issue of National Savings Certificates goes on sale barely a year after the 18th issue found its way to Post Office counters. Both mature after five years, but whereas £10 in the 18th issue becomes worth £15 in the 19th the value will be £16.35.

Does this mean that savers should instantly transfer their allegiance from the old issue to the new?

For most long-term savers who are prepared to stick the full five years with the new issue, the answer will be yes. Provided that the first anniversary of your holding of the 18th issue has passed, it seems a pity to throw away the chance of a 5 per cent increase in the value of your holding for the sake of being first in the queue to buy the latest issue.

Although interest on National Savings Certificates is quoted as though it were an annual yield, in practice the build-up of accumulated interest (it is not paid like a dividend but used to increase the capital value) does not progress at an even pace. In the first years the rate of interest is fairly small; in the later years, interest is paid at more frequent intervals giving a fairly high annual total.

After effectively lying fallow for the first eleven months at the end of the first year each £10 unit in the 18th issue becomes worth £10.50. If you have the maximum holding of £1,500 which you now wish to transfer into the 19th issue, remember that you need only cash in 143 of the 10 units to provide you with £1,500 and a little spare change. The remaining seven units could be left to earn their keep in the old issue.

However, if you originally bought the 18th issue with the intention of using the maturity value for a specific purpose in 1984—school fees, for example—you are probably better off staying with it. In 1984 the value of the 19th issue £10 units will only be £14.10, compared with £15 for the earlier issue.

Although the value of the current issue of National Savings Certificates is displayed in Post Offices, the value of previous issues is not. Ask for form P156 W, which lists the value of all certificates issued since 1916. It is a good idea to get

## National Saving Certificates

Value of £10 unit	18th issue	19th issue
£	£	£
End year 1	10.50	10.50
" " 2	11.25	11.40
" " 3	12.24	12.45
" " 4	13.50	14.10
" " 5	15.00	16.35

Increases are added every four months except for year one.

one when you buy your next batch of certificates and keep it with them for future reference.

The new issue is expected to sell well, although whether it will outstrip the "super 16th" which in three months (December 1976 to March 1977) took in £500m, is another matter.

The 19th, with its compound interest rate of 10.33 per cent, equivalent to 14.76 per cent gross for basic rate taxpayers, has a marginal edge over gilt-edged securities, but is offering slightly less than the grossed-up building society share rate of 15 per cent and a lot less than building society loan shares. The rate, however, is fixed for five years, unlike the flexible building society terms and will look generous if rates in general live up to expectations and begin to fall later in the year.

Meanwhile, the Government has until the end of this month to decide the future of the Index-Linked Retirement Issue of National Savings Certificates. For some reason, the prospectus for this issue actually states that three months' notice is required of a change in terms.

This unique wording, at least as far as National Savings Certificates are concerned, means that an announcement about the conversion or extension of terms for "Green Bonds" is required at the end of this month. It is unthinkable that the Government would not renew this best-seller.

Margaret Stone

## Unsigned codicil to a will

In her last will dated July, 1966, my mother-in-law bequeathed a picture which had been in her family for some generations, and thought to be a minor old master, to a well-known gallery. She also left a house property in her own name to my husband, her only child.

Just before her death, shortly after this date, and while in hospital, she sent for her solicitor and asked him to make a codicil leaving the picture to my husband. We have a letter from the solicitor stating that this was the case but she died before signing it. The solicitor led us to believe that the codicil therefore became invalid and the picture had at least to be offered to the gallery.

Having seen the picture and restored to the gallery accepted it "with pleasure". We always felt this rather hard, particularly as the property mentioned above had, without our knowledge, been the subject of a successful repairs order which had not been complied with and so it was demolished. Thus we lost out all ways.

My query is whether after all this time it would be worthwhile seeking to obtain the picture. As a national English bank were the executors be the liability theirs? Their representative asked the gallery whether they wanted it; should the solicitor have exposed our cause? Have we in fact any redress at all after all this time? (W.S., Scotland.)

Under English law the bank as executor was obliged to offer the picture to the trustees of the gallery to which it was bequeathed. The trustees could have declined to accept it, for example, if they thought it unsuitable for exhibition. If rejected by the gallery it would have fallen back into the residue of your mother-in-law's estate.

Had the trustees been informed of the codicil leaving the picture to your husband, they might have seen fit to honour the last wishes of the deceased, even though she did not survive long enough to sign it. If you or your solicitors contact the trustees they may still be prepared to reconsider whether they wish to take advantage of the technical legal position although they might consider that as trustees of a charity they must insist on the gallery's legal entitlement.

Had the deceased solicitor known she was unlikely to survive long enough to sign a codicil, he ought to have arranged for a *donatio mortis causa*, that is, the picture to be handed by the deceased to her

responsible to make good the loss of interest:

I arranged to surrender my endowment policy in August, 1972, at which point the surrender value was £1,551. My solicitor says that the policy document has been lost in the post, and negotiations are still going on to claim the money. I should have had over £20 interest by now as I had received the money in August; should not the assurance society pay the interest to date? (Dr PYN, London, N1.)

An endowment policy, being an original document, ought to be sent by recorded post, so it may be your solicitor who is responsible for his loss of interest if he sent it by ordinary post. In any case he ought to have advised you to apply at once (within 14 days) for a duplicate when it became clear the policy was missing.

Alternatively you might insist that the assurance society should pay you interest on the ground that it has had the use of the money.

Ordinarily the amount payable under a policy does not carry interest as a matter of course. Nevertheless, you might be entitled to interest from the society on "general principles". If there is no stipulation about interest, the policy itself, you could draw the society's attention to the court's power to award you interest under the Law Reform Act 1934, for the period payment is withheld.

If the maximum benefits which can be included for this purpose are to be included so as to increase "remuneration" for this purpose? (G.W., Weymouth.)

Besides salary, commission and bonuses, other taxable benefits provided by an employer can be included for this purpose. Here, one can think of the use of a company car, or the use of company accommodation. Also, the cost of medical treatment insurance (such as BUPA or PPP) can be included if the employer meets the cost.

When calculating the maximum retirement benefits for funding purposes, the Inland Revenue allows an estimate of fixed remuneration to be compared with the estimated benefits emerging under a pension contract. Current remuneration can be increased by 81 per cent each year, compound, to retirement age—so as to take into account both cost of living and promotion increases in earnings.

## Birth of Sticklepath's own investment club

In the *Dartmouth Globe* & *Argus*' latest dispatch from Sticklepath, a glimpse of light can be seen at the end of the tunnel. It is now revealed that this whole elaborate pantomime has been staged to introduce the formation of the Great Grimpen Mire Investment Club, whose exploits will be regularly chronicled in these pages from now on.

Under the headline "Ritely fought referendum at Sticklepath: limited success for Grog-Bevington faction", the article continues: "Sticklepath, in the grip of election fever, was the scene of something of a setback for supporters of Lieutenant-Colonel Rudolph Grog-Bevington, local Allied Elderberry wines tycoon.

In the referendum held to decide the fate of the Great Grimpen Mire, although the colonel himself was elected to the investment club committee alongside his commercial colleague, Mr Reginald Pluckin, chairman of the Dartmouth Building Society, none of his other close connections will be joining them.

Unsuccessful candidates included his personal assistant, Miss Gloria Dyring-Friend, Mr Uriah Stoot, his head keeper, and Mr Alistair Sibling, the company secretary of Allied Elderberry Wines. Miss Darling-Friend lost her deposit and burst into tears on hearing the result.

Colonel Grog-Bevington had an automatic ex-officio seat on the committee having been nominated by Elizabeth, Lady Baskerville, Sir Henry's mother, on her deathbed. The other two ex-officio members are Lady (Elizabeth) Baskerville, Sir

Henry's wife, and Mr Kevin Ludgate, Allied Elderberry Wines' shop steward, and local convenor of the National Association of Sticklepathers, Turn-croppers and Idle-bashers.

The remaining committee members will now be Prison Officer Walter ('Wormwood') Scrubb of HM Prison Dartmouth, Mr Brian Thrift, local manager of the Sticklepath portable Insurance Company, Mr Sam Spender, Sticklepath garage owner; Miss Agatha Sibling, Mr Alistair Sibling's aunt; Mrs Ada Blott, the village postmistress; and the Vicar of Sticklepath, the Rev Basil Quiche.

"The election of the committee, which took place under the auspices of the Electoral Reform Society, was held at the same time as the referendum to decide the fate of the Great Grimpen Mire itself. The village voted to sell the half of it that lies to the west of the dividing footpath for the sum of £100,000. The remaining half will be administered by the committee, which will consider its further sale in the course of time.

The committee will also have the task of managing the £100,000 arising from the current transaction. Meanwhile, the west portion of the Mire will be mined for tin by the purchasers, Great Rockall and Hongkong Mining Company. "Sticklepath may thus now look forward to a new era of turbulent prosperity, having been pitch-forked into the unfamiliar world of investment and high finance."

Francis Kinsman

## Mergers mastermind

Mr Philip Court is that rare example of a building society man in a hurry. Aged 41, he joined the old Wolverhampton and District in 1959 when it had assets of £20m. He helped to build it through eleven mergers to become the £280m Midshires and, just when he was on the brink of moving on in search of new challenges, up popped the £300m Town and Country with a merger proposal.

The enlarged T and C will be seventeenth in the movement's pecking order and Mr Court will be in charge—with little intention now of seeking pastures new. He is ambitious and wants a wider role in the building society movement and reckons that his new base could provide the stepping stone he needs.

MS



EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

مكتبة الصحف

Double or quits

## A good time to stop on board Ocean Transport?

Good shares are not like fine wine, taking years to mature. If they do, they are bad shares. Naturally, I hope my selections come good before we age and no reader reason to quit.

The game, occasionally recorded in this column, is called "Double or Quits": because it is meant for people who like their investing spiced with thrills.

Every share mentioned is a gamble on something turning up, and the nature of the gamble is indicated with each recommendation.

If I seem to keep it's because most people who ask me for a gamble do not know the rules. They want a share that doubles—and in double-quick time.

Here, such shares are not normally on offer. Nor is insurance against losses. I hope naturally to give you a thrill of winning rather than losing, but from time to time even I nod.

However, as it happens, not lately. Indeed, I seem to be doing good by stealth. When played on December 17, Dunlop came in at 44p. They are now 59p.

Westland Aircraft appeared on December 1 at 47p. They have climbed to 75p. Staveley took a blow on December 29 at 15p. Now they are 27p.

There is no sense in quitting

when a game starts as well as this and I am sticking with these shares for they have a winning chance. Westland is the only one to have reported officially on its progress and it put my cautious gambling streak to shame.

I had hoped that it might make profits of £11.5m or more in the year to last September. In fact, Westland made £15.3m and quadrupled the dividend. Perhaps I should gamble a bit more.

With this in mind I suggest a flutter on Ocean Transport and Trading. The gamble is on gradual shipping recovery, and a maintained final dividend.

I first considered P & O, now visibly recovering from the exit from oil and Lord Inchcape's surgery. But this is the snag. The shares have visibly recovered, too, rising from last year's low of 71p to 114p, only a whisker away from the 1979-80 high.

But Ocean has only just left harbour. At 98p the shares have left the 83p low at the quay, but that is all. As recently as 1977 they were 26p, which illustrates life on Ocean's wave.

Prophecies are made only to be confounded, but I think that Ocean will maintain the final because it does not wish to damage its investment

standing; because its investment rival, P & O did so; and because business is getting better.

I also think that the impact of the Trans-Siberian Railway on Overseas Containers, in which Ocean has a big stake, can be exaggerated. Finally, the emerging cold war is altering the whole climate for world trade. West Africa, Ocean's speciality, is picking up briskly.

Meanwhile, there is a yield of more than 13 per cent to go on with if I am right. Anyway, all will be told in March when Ocean should report on 1979 with profits of £15m or so.

But perhaps Ocean is not your sort of gamble. For once I will oblige you with another. Try United Dominions Trust, still in the Bank of England lifeboat, and at 43p not exactly climbing, as the impression sinks in that interest rates are not coming down at once.

Moreover, the next set of figures to be reported—for the year to next June—will be unexciting, arousing fear that a return to dividends will be postponed. But interest rates are probably dropping sharply this year at some stage, interests outside hire purchase are growing and the group could be repositioned one day.

Peter Wainwright

## Stock markets

## Golds the one bright spot amid the gloom

Equities and gilts ended the first leg of the account on a dull note yesterday, as the market continued to be swamped by gloom and despondency.

Equities remained nervous ahead of the Law Lords' judgment on the secondary picketing issue, in the steel strike, with voters continuing to mark-down prices.

Gilts, too, had a worried look.

Percy Lane Group rose 1p to 29p. The 1979-80 low was 24p (a week ago) and the high 58p.

More than 100,000 shares were taken off the market yesterday on considerations, it is thought, of Lane's property potential.

The group is capitalised at little more than £1m. The property at 1978 values was put at £1m.

with dealers reporting steady bouts of selling.

Elsewhere, gold shares staged a recovery as the bullion price rose £27.50 to \$677.50 following steady overnight levels on the New York market and a certain amount of short cover. But oils continued to drift on fears of a general weakening of the oil price and despite news that the Kuwaitis had raised their prices.

News that GEC had made a counter-bid for Decca, which in spite of forecasts along those lines, took the market completely by surprise, sending dealers scurrying back to the market from their various watering holes.

However, the news failed to do anything for the remainder of the market which still had to cope with the decision of the Law Lords to overrule Lord Denning's previous judgment. As a result equities continued to drift lower and the FT index closed 5.5 down at 447.8.

The sharp jump in the Treasury bill rate knocked even more of the stuffing out of gilts, which had already been worried by the fear that it could still be quite some time before interest rates began to fall.

Longs finished the day at the bottom, with falls of between 14 and 21 not uncommon, while shorts managed to finish about 11 off the bottom with losses of about 14 to 21.

Leading industrials had a neglected look about them, the exception to the rule being Reed International which rose 4p to 201p, encouraged by some good figures earlier in the week. But elsewhere, falls of between 6p and 8p were noted in ICI at

376p, Glaxo at 470p, Fisons at 277p and Unilever at 454p. The main news of the day concerned GEC's counter-bid for Decca. The Decca shares were immediately suspended at 385p up 5p in the ordinary, while the "A" were 4p lower at 340p. GEC dipped 5p on the news while Racal, which is currently making an agreed bid for the group, plunged 15p.

The theory among market men is that GEC, when the terms are announced, will probably make a cash bid but whatever happens it will probably prove expensive for Racal.

Elsewhere in electricals, Muthaird jumped 10p to 205p after reports of a placing earlier in the week which began speculation that Tyco Inc might have increased its stake to 20 per cent as it said it had intended to earlier.

Shares of Serck leapt 17p to 69p following Rockwell investment in 30 per cent of the company.

Westland Aircraft dipped 3p to 74p on news that John Brown up 1p at 59p, had sold its sizeable stake through a placing in the market at 70p.

Bid talk also continued to inspire Guthrie 15p to 724p as talk persisted that Sirs Darby would make a bid in the spring.

Satchley Parke Bernet improved another 10p to 495p on whispers of a bid from the United States. But Christie International eased 1p to 175p.

Among companies reporting, Wholesale Fittings were rewarded for a set of good figures by a rise of 35p to 495p, while Evode improved 1p to 45p.

In engineering, Dowty were nervous ahead of interim figures next Wednesday, dipping 7p to 158p, while the threat of lay offs as a result of the steel strike loomed 12p from Metal Box at 235p. GKN were 6p higher at 266p, although press comment lifted Closures 5p to 119p.

Debenhams were once again

the leading light in an otherwise dull stores sector rising 2p to 87p. The theory remains that a bid from whatever quarter cannot be too far off. House of Fraser was 3p lower at 135p and Burton 4p off at 109p.

Golds again surged ahead on the back of the latest rise in the bullion price with some

Douglas has got City analysts flummoxed. Next Wednesday it will report interim profits. Estimates of nine brokers range from £11m through £14m (the comparable figure the year before) to as much as £18m.

On February 13 Douglis meet the Society of Investment Analysts where members can discuss with group chiefs where and why they went wrong. Jobbers had the shares 7p down at 159p yesterday as a precaution.

sizeable gains being maintained. Anglo American Gold rose 53p to \$891 along with St Helena \$11 up to \$353 and West Drie \$25 up to \$321.

Among the London financials, Cons Gold rose 8p to 477p.

Oils were another weak spot, with falls throughout the list. BP fell 6p to 358p, Shell 10p to 346p and Ultramar 8p to 43p.

Equity turnover on January 31 was £122.62m (16.188 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange, Telegraph, were Premier Consolidated, JCI, Becham, GEC, BAT, Burnham, Debenhams, RTZ and Consolidated Gold Fields.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Brigay Corp (I)	1.35(1.24)	0.003(0.001)	0.04(0.01)	—	—	—
Brif Amer & Gen (F)	—	2.15(1.91)	2.51(1.95)	1.3(1.12)	17/4	2.34(1.85)
Colonial Sec (F)	—	0.51(0.46)	—	8(6.5)	3/4	10.5p
PR Prop (I)	10.87(10.25)	—	—	—	—	—
Idris Tin (F)	—	0.56(0.26)	—	—	—	—
Radley Fashion (F)	6.17(5.12b)	0.09(0.19b)	8.82(6.46)	2.87(2.87b)	4/4	4.37(4.31b)
Radio Rentals (I)	75.82(67.7)	21.59(14.58)	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Fit (I)	11.44(9.12)	1.49(0.84)	20.5(11.6)	4(0.23)	10/4	—(5.0)
H. Young (I)	1.98(1.72)	0.006(0.01a)	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on profits per share. Dividend is shown gross of tax. Dividend is shown gross of tax. Dividend is shown gross of tax.

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## Interest rate holds back Town &amp; City

By Philip Robinson

High interest rates gave a virtually unchanged look to the half-time figures from Jeffrey Sterling's Town & City Properties.

The market had been expecting some sign of further improvement, with the group has shown over the past three years, but with the first-half carrying nearly four months of MLR at 17 per cent, the interest bill went up from £11.6m to £14.1m and kept the loss before tax at around £7.5m.

Mr Sterling said: "If we had been 'working' on a comparable interest rate in this half year, the interest bill would have been £3 million lower." That would have brought the loss before tax down to around £4.5m.

But it is the prospects for the second half, traditionally the better six months, which probably played a part in bringing the shares down 1.75p to 18p. The six months to the year end of March this year will bear the full brunt of a 17 per cent MLR.

However, the directors say that the figures show an improvement in the underlying strength of the group. Net income from property rents, as more developments are completed, jumped 77 per cent to £3.1m with more to come.

Income from the Sterling Guarantee Trust which includes Earls Court, Olympia, Sutcliffe Catering Group and engineering distributors, Buck and Hickman, rose from £2.1m to £3.3m.

For the first time there has also been an increase in the value of shareholders' funds, by £6.5m, to around £75 million. A further £45m worth of property which was in the books at £28m has been sold since last March, bringing total sales to date to £370m which had a book value of £342m.

Mr Mears, who resigned as deputy managing director of furniture group Christie-Tyler three months ago, is in talks with the directors of competitor Wae years and Homer which could lead to a seat on the board.

Walker & Homer issued a statement yesterday that discussions were taking place which could lead to a closer association between Mr Mears and the company, and said a conclusion is not expected for several weeks.

Mr Mears, 35, signed a business consultancy agreement with Walker on Thursday night.

Walker's financial director

and company secretary, Mr Thomas Shaw, said last night: "It is too early to say, but we are discussing a directorship which could be the post of chief executive. On a consultancy basis, Mr Mears will bring a large amount of valuable expertise and marketing ability to the group."

Profits of Walker & Homer have been going down since 1975 on a turnover which has remained static. Last year the group passed its interim and final dividends as profits went into the red to the tune of £87,000. Walker & Homer's first-half was ruled off on February 9, and should be reporting in April.

Dana Corporation, the United States group, is to acquire the private British Intertruck Companies for £32.8m, of which £3m will be satisfied by the issue of Dana 51 shares and the balance in cash.

Almost half the shares will be issued on completion and the remainder on September 1, 1980.

Intertruck Companies manufacture and distribute truck trailer parts. Net tangible assets amounted to £2.35m at April 30, 1979.

£29,000 on sales of £82.1m for the year ending April 30, 1979.

Mr G. K. Smith, chairman and Mr K. R. Collen, managing director, and the present executive director will all continue in their present positions.

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## Credit

## Truth in lending at last

In the past it has been difficult to compare the costs of borrowing money in different ways because the lenders have quoted their charges in different ways.

But from October 6 new orders and regulations under the Consumer Credit Act will require those who offer credit to show the total charge they are making for it, expressed as an annual percentage rate (APR).

The annual percentage rate, which will have to be included in quotations for credit and any advertisements that include more than basic information that credit is available, will be much higher than the rates of interest about which customers are used to hearing. As a rough guide, the APR works out in most cases at about double the yearly flat rate.

A flat rate of 10 per cent (£10 interest a year for every £100 borrowed) is therefore equivalent to an annual percentage rate of 19.5 per cent, assuming that the loan is repaid in monthly instalments over one year.

Similarly a monthly rate of 11 per cent is also a 19.5 per cent annual percentage rate, if the debt is paid off in one year; and a hire purchase agreement of a £20 deposit with 12 monthly payments of £7.33, to buy something with a cash price of £100, also amounts to having the same APR—19.5 per cent.

It becomes possible to compare the costs of borrowing in these different ways for the first time when the APR is calculated as a common means of expression. But the calculation of the rate is no simple matter. Indeed, an APR as it will be quoted in Britain is not the same as one calculated, for example, in America.

American rates, while similarly comparable, are with a few notable exceptions, usually 2 per cent or 2 per cent lower than those calculated, according to the British rules.

One important distinguishing feature which makes the APR more truthful than other ways of quoting interest is that it must be based on the total charge for credit, taking into account all the extra costs that credit customers incur which they would escape if they paid cash. So it might include not only interest, but also arrangement or acceptance fees, the cost of a maintenance contract, which the customer might be obliged to enter into during a period of hire or credit purchase, or the cost of an insurance policy, which he might be required to have as security for the loan or goods being bought on credit.

The other vital difference is that the annual percentage rate takes into account the amount actually owed at different times during the life of a loan. The sum of £100 borrowed and repaid in 12 monthly repayments of £9.50 (12 x £9.50 =

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£114) would be said to carry a flat rate of interest of 14 per cent. But on average over the year the customer owes little more than half the original amount of the loan and that is why the APR works out at almost 28 per cent.

Where the terms of a loan are fixed in advance the APR can be precisely calculated—at any rate, by the sufficiently numerate and with the aid of a completed formula and a calculator. Where there are variables the rate must necessarily be an estimate based on assumptions which the regulations insist must not be unfair to the customer.

So, for example, the main credit cards, charging a monthly rate of interest of 21 per cent, quote an annual percentage rate of 30.6 per cent but that is in fact a maximum, taking no account of the free

credit period before payment becomes due or any repayment in the course of the year.

A £100 purchase by Access or Barclaycard enjoying 15 free days of credit and repaid over three months in as near as possible equal instalments would bear total interest of £3.51 and work out as having almost exactly the same APR as our previous examples—19.5 per cent.

Over six months on similar assumptions the rate is 24.9 per cent and over one year 27.6 per cent. The credit card companies claim that it is virtually impossible to imagine that any of their customers would ever really have to pay the maximum annual percentage rate which they are legally obliged to quote.

But the more "down market" one goes, the higher the interest rates become. A company lending unsecured money for short terms and in small amounts, relying on manual collection as the only way of bringing its risks down to acceptable levels, will be charging an APR of more than 100 per cent.

Small local companies, usually descended from the credit drapery trade, will find it particularly difficult to quote an APR. A £50 loan to be repaid over 14 weeks at 14.5 per cent, for example—a not untypical offer in this sort of lending—goes over the top of the ready reference tables published by the Stationery Office. They stop at 999 per cent and it works out at 106.8 per cent.

Robin Young

Typical borrowing costs

	Annual percentage rate
Bank overdraft	20-24
Bank personal loan	51-7
Insurance policy loans	51-8
Finance house unsecured loans	27+
Credit cards	up to 30.6
In-house credit cards, budget accounts	20.9-34.4
Finance house unsecured loans	28.3-45.4
Hire purchase, credit sale	22.5-80+
Trading cheques	up to 72.5+
Corporate moneylenders	up to 121
Back street moneylenders	up to 1,600

## Evode makes up for first-half setback

By Rosemary Unsworth

Evode Holdings the Staffordshire adhesives manufacturer, made up for its first-half setback at the market yesterday by reporting a 20 per cent profit at the year end by 20 per cent.

Pretax profits rose from £1.3m to £1.6m and turnover increased by 17 per cent to £29m in the 52 weeks to September 29, 1979.

Mr Andrew Simon, acting chairman of the £100m public company, said that while the results were satisfactory, "they only give a small view towards the profits growth and profit margins we are striving for."

He explained that all divisions had a difficult first half because of poor weather and national industrial unrest, but that this has been followed by

buoyant trading conditions in the second half. "The pent-up demand in the economy showed through," he said.

Evode has closed down its overseas activities which were losing money or not making an adequate return. These include the loss-making French company and the United States distribution operation.

A final dividend of 1.39p gross has been proposed, which with the interim of 0.65p gross, makes a total of 2p and represents a 15 per cent increase over last year's 1.73p.

Although first quarter results have been satisfactory, Mr Simon expressed concern over the immediate outlook for the United Kingdom and world economy and the possible effects of a prolonged steel strike. The share price gained 1p to 45p.

ARMOUR TRUST

Turnover for half-year to October 31, £4.3m (£3.8m). Pretax profit, £241,000 (£217,000). Tax all (same). Board intends to pay a higher dividend for year than last year.

NARROW HEPBURN GROUP

Caparo Group has acquired further 50,000 ordinary shares in Barrow, making total of 6.75m (27.93 per cent).

MATTHEW BROWN

Chairman told annual meeting that Brown's performance so far this year is "satisfactory."

PENTOS

Pentons' offshoot, Hudsons Bookshops, to buy retail bookshop and library supply business to the Brown and Son for about £330,000 cash.

TECHNOLOGY TRUST







ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Jan 28. Dealings End, Feb 8. § Contango Day, Feb 11. Settlement Day, Feb 18  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

**§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous day**

**- THE TIMES SHARE INDICES**  
Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the best prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the Index of 150 Industrial stocks, are being reviewed and recalculated to cover the period of non-publication.







# HOME & GARDEN

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18" x 12"	1'6"	£1.75
18" x 12"	2'0"	£2.10
18" x 12"	2'6"	£2.45
18" x 12"	3'0"	£2.80
18" x 12"	3'6"	£3.15
18" x 12"	4'0"	£3.50
18" x 12"	4'6"	£3.85
18" x 12"	5'0"	£4.20
18" x 12"	5'6"	£4.55
18" x 12"	6'0"	£4.90
18" x 12"	6'6"	£5.25
18" x 12"	7'0"	£5.60
18" x 12"	7'6"	£5.95
18" x 12"	8'0"	£6.30
18" x 12"	8'6"	£6.65
18" x 12"	9'0"	£7.00
18" x 12"	9'6"	£7.35
18" x 12"	10'0"	£7.70
18" x 12"	10'6"	£8.05
18" x 12"	11'0"	£8.40
18" x 12"	11'6"	£8.75
18" x 12"	12'0"	£9.10
18" x 12"	12'6"	£9.45
18" x 12"	13'0"	£9.80
18" x 12"	13'6"	£10.15
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18" x 12"	16'6"	£12.25
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18" x 12"	18'0"	£13.30
18" x 12"	18'6"	£13.65
18" x 12"	19'0"	£14.00
18" x 12"	19'6"	£14.35
18" x 12"	20'0"	£14.70
18" x 12"	20'6"	£15.05
18" x 12"	21'0"	£15.40
18" x 12"	21'6"	£15.75
18" x 12"	22'0"	£16.10
18" x 12"	22'6"	£16.45
18" x 12"	23'0"	£16.80
18" x 12"	23'6"	£17.15
18" x 12"	24'0"	£17.50
18" x 12"	24'6"	£17.85
18" x 12"	25'0"	£18.20
18" x 12"	25'6"	£18.55
18" x 12"	26'0"	£18.90
18" x 12"	26'6"	£19.25
18" x 12"	27'0"	£19.60
18" x 12"	27'6"	£19.95
18" x 12"	28'0"	£20.30
18" x 12"	28'6"	£20.65
18" x 12"	29'0"	£21.00
18" x 12"	29'6"	£21.35
18" x 12"	30'0"	£21.70
18" x 12"	30'6"	£22.05
18" x 12"	31'0"	£22.40
18" x 12"	31'6"	£22.75
18" x 12"	32'0"	£23.10
18" x 12"	32'6"	£23.45
18" x 12"	33'0"	£23.80
18" x 12"	33'6"	£24.15
18" x 12"	34'0"	£24.50
18" x 12"	34'6"	£24.85
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18" x 12"	35'6"	£25.55
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18" x 12"	36'6"	£26.25
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18" x 12"	37'6"	£26.95
18" x 12"	38'0"	£27.30
18" x 12"	38'6"	£27.65
18" x 12"	39'0"	£28.00
18" x 12"	39'6"	£28.35
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18" x 12"	40'6"	£29.05
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18" x 12"	42'6"	£30.45
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18" x 12"	47'6"	£33.95
18" x 12"	48'0"	£34.30
18" x 12"	48'6"	£34.65
18" x 12"	49'0"	£35.00
18" x 12"	49'6"	£35.35
18" x 12"	50'0"	£35.70
18" x 12"	50'6"	£36.05
18" x 12"	51'0"	£36.40
18" x 12"	51'6"	£36.75
18" x 12"	52'0"	£37.10
18" x 12"	52'6"	£37.45
18" x 12"	53'0"	£37.80
18" x 12"	53'6"	£38.15
18" x 12"	54'0"	£38.50
18" x 12"	54'6"	£38.85
18" x 12"	55'0"	£39.20
18" x 12"	55'6"	£39.55
18" x 12"	56'0"	£39.90
18" x 12"	56'6"	£40.25
18" x 12"	57'0"	£40.60
18" x 12"	57'6"	£40.95
18" x 12"	58'0"	£41.30
18" x 12"	58'6"	£41.65
18" x 12"	59'0"	£42.00
18" x 12"	59'6"	£42.35
18" x 12"	60'0"	£42.70
18" x 12"	60'6"	£43.05
18" x 12"	61'0"	£43.40
18" x 12"	61'6"	£43.75
18" x 12"	62'0"	£44.10
18" x 12"	62'6"	£44.45
18" x 12"	63'0"	£44.80
18" x 12"	63'6"	£45.15
18" x 12"	64'0"	£45.50
18" x 12"	64'6"	£45.85
18" x 12"	65'0"	£46.20
18" x 12"	65'6"	£46.55
18" x 12"	66'0"	£46.90
18" x 12"	66'6"	£47.25
18" x 12"	67'0"	£47.60
18" x 12"	67'6"	£47.95
18" x 12"	68'0"	£48.30
18" x 12"	68'6"	£48.65
18" x 12"	69'0"	£49.00
18" x 12"	69'6"	£49.35
18" x 12"	70'0"	£49.70
18" x 12"	70'6"	£50.05
18" x 12"	71'0"	£50.40
18" x 12"	71'6"	£50.75
18" x 12"	72'0"	£51.10
18" x 12"	72'6"	£51.45
18" x 12"	73'0"	£51.80
18" x 12"	73'6"	£52.15
18" x 12"	74'0"	£52.50
18" x 12"	74'6"	£52.85
18" x 12"	75'0"	£53.20
18" x 12"	75'6"	£53.55
18" x 12"	76'0"	£53.90
18" x 12"	76'6"	£54.25
18" x 12"	77'0"	£54.60
18" x 12"	77'6"	£54.95
18" x 12"	78'0"	£55.30
18" x 12"	78'6"	£55.65
18" x 12"	79'0"	£56.00
18" x 12"	79'6"	£56.35
18" x 12"	80'0"	£56.70
18" x 12"	80'6"	£57.05
18" x 12"	81'0"	£57.40
18" x 12"	81'6"	£57.75
18" x 12"	82'0"	£58.10
18" x 12"	82'6"	£58.45
18" x 12"	83'0"	£58.80
18" x 12"	83'6"	£59.15
18" x 12"	84'0"	£59.50
18" x 12"	84'6"	£59.85
18" x 12"	85'0"	£60.20
18" x 12"	85'6"	£60.55
18" x 12"	86'0"	£60.90
18" x 12"	86'6"	£61.25
18" x 12"	87'0"	£61.60
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18" x 12"	91'6"	£64.75
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18" x 12"	93'0"	£65.80
18" x 12"	93'6"	£66.15
18" x 12"	94'0"	£66.50
18" x 12"	94'6"	£66.85
18" x 12"	95'0"	£67.20
18" x 12"	95'6"	£67.55
18" x 12"	96'0"	£67.90
18" x 12"	96'6"	£68.25
18" x 12"	97'0"	£68.60
18" x 12"	97'6"	£68.95
18" x 12"	98'0"	£69.30
18" x 12"	98'6"	£69.65
18" x 12"	99'0"	£70.00
18" x 12"	99'6"	£70.35
18" x 12"	100'0"	£70.70
18" x 12"	100'6"	£71.05

**JEMM DESIGNS LTD.**  
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Bathroom suites in 28 colours from white to black.

All at huge savings. Personal attention and guidance given to your requirements. Phone John or Howard Birch: 01-226 3657 or 01-226 7220, for details, or pay us a visit at 143-147a Essex Road, Islington, N.1. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.00 p.m. Sat. 9.30-2.00 p.m. (Sat. Bank Hols). Regret as brochures issued.

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SLATTED BASES  
DEEP DRAWER DIVANS  
BUNK BEDS  
POSTER BEDS  
FROM £79

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A developed overlapping design with the same sound appearance both sides. Matching gables and trills tops. Posts of concrete or pressure preserved wood. Specified by Architects and Government Authorities. Selected by the London Design Centre.

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Stockist and service centre

For the lowest possible price  
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Full repair service on all makes  
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## MICROWAVE YEAR COMPLETE

GUARANTEE ALL MAJOR QUALITY MICROWAVE OVENS

CREDIT FACILITIES AVAILABLE  
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SEE A FULL COLOUR DEMO

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**ANNUAL SALE NOW ON**

Generous reductions on a wide range of old and new pine furniture.

Opening hours Mon-Sat 9 am-7.30 pm, Sunday 10am-6pm

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Huge discounts on Welsh Dressers plus more

4ft 3-door solid pine Welsh Dresser  
Normally £285. New £155.

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01-626 4411  
Barclaycard and Access

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£19.14 per dozen bottles or £20.28 per assorted dozen bottles

MYMERING (Pale Extra Dry)  
RENASANS (Pale Dry)  
ONZERUST (Medium Dry)  
GOLDEN ACRE (Rich Golden)

Prices include VAT and delivery (UK Mainland)  
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Jeffrey Phillips (Wine Merchant) Ltd  
22 Station St., Lymington, Hampshire SO4 9BA

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The best for salad, cooking and frying

GUIN, LEONARD & CO. LTD.  
71-73 St. John Street, London, E.C.1.

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Don't let your central heating dry out you - your home & furniture

**Elegant Ceramic Humidifier**

Puts back the moisture your central heating takes away and your furniture and dry atmosphere - helps prevent draughts, etc.

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## ATTENTION ALL GARDENERS!

Lowland's new Spring catalogue is now ready - 48 pages packed to the brim with stimulating colour and a host of ideas for your garden. Choose from exotic plants and exotics, a wide selection of other popular colourful plants and shrubs, flowering trees, hedging, fruit trees and shrubs, soft fruit and strawberries, in addition, television and school programmes, and giving useful cultural hints, and more a whole range of indoor plants, plus a FREE offer with orders of £17.50 or over.

Write today for your copy to:  
Lowland Nurseries Ltd.,  
Dept. T, St. Thomas's Road,  
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Money paid in advance for goods ordered from advertisements in this newspaper (other than under the heading 'classified') is protected under a scheme operated by The Newspaper Publishers Association. This scheme applies only when the advertiser becomes the subject of liquidation or bankruptcy proceedings.

Full details of your rights are explained in a leaflet obtainable by writing (including a stamped addressed envelope) to

The Newspaper Publishers Association  
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## EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

**THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ROME**  
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The school offers the above fellowship to an established scholar for six months. Free residence at the school. Particulars and application form from the British School at Rome, 1 Lower Road, London, SW7 2AA.

Completed applications in by 11 February. Interviews in London on 7th March, 1980.

## BUCKFAST ABBEY SCHOOL

BUCKFAST ABBEY, DEVON

Choral Scholarships valued at £500 p.a. are available for boys and girls aged 11-13. Entrance examination will be held at the school on 10th March 1980. For entry in September, the exam is in 7th and 8th years. Further details and application form available from the Headmaster.

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FULL Secretarial training including experience in the field. Office, telephone, post-graduate training. Courses begin at intervals of one month. Post-graduate training for the trained student.

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01-955 5452/5451

## DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

**NANNY REQUIRED**

For Dutch professional family to live with outside. Attention: children aged 10-12. The family will live in London within the family home. Excellent salary and conditions. Suitable for interview. Please apply to Mrs. David G. Jones, 100, St. James's Place, London, W.1. Tel. 01-584 7500 or 01-584 7516.

## PERSONNEL MARLOW

Professional company offers recruitment, selection, training, and consultancy services. Marlow (06284) 74033

## YOU DESERVE THE BEST SO LOOK FOR DRAKE PERSONNEL'S ADS IN THE PAPER ON MONDAY.

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Secretarial and Non-Secretarial Careers are featured through the pages of the February opening.

**COVENT GARDEN BUREAU**  
53 Fleet Street, EC4A  
01-555 7646

## STELLA FISHER BUREAU

You may prefer a Saturday morning interview.

Phone 01-584 6644 for an appointment between 10 and 12 noon.

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836 6644

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The first step towards the top for people in the top 10% of the profession.

01-584 5583

## PERSONALITY PERSONNEL

Specialist recruitment for the top 10% of the profession.

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## CAREER PLAN

Have jobs for you in the top 10% of the profession.

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## ANTIQUE DEALERS

Established firm requiring experienced and enthusiastic antique dealers.

01-584 5583

## THE RIGHT APPROACH!

A team of experienced, qualified consultants and the best jobs in London.

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## TEMPTING TIMES

01-493 6010

Where will you be on Monday?

It's the first thing on a Monday morning that our clients suddenly find they need a TEMP. So if you ring us it could be that on Tuesday morning you will be on your way to meet your new boss.

Ring Penny Stevens  
**Albermarle Appointments**  
Recruitment Consultants



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EDUCATIONAL 23  
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FINANCIAL 23  
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HOME AND GARDEN 23  
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061-8341234

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel: 01-873311, extn. 7180.

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD.**

We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proofread. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error report it to the Classified Queries Department immediately by telephone (01-873311, extn. 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

**THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS 24 HOURS.**

Alterations to copy 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

**BIRTHS**

ADAMS—On January 31st at Mid-Downham, Hampshire, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Adams, a son, James John Adams.

ATTWOOD—On January 31st at Mid-Downham, Hampshire, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Attwood, a son, James John Attwood.

BALLOUNTS—On January 31st at Mid-Downham, Hampshire, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Ballounts, a son, James John Ballounts.

BENNETT—On January 31st at Mid-Downham, Hampshire, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bennett, a son, James John Bennett.

BORRIS—On January 31st at Mid-Downham, Hampshire, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Borris, a son, James John Borris.

BULL—On January 31st at Mid-Downham, Hampshire, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bull, a son, James John Bull.

MURPHY—On January 31st at Mid-Downham, Hampshire, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Murphy, a son, James John Murphy.

**The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15138**

This puzzle, used at the Chester regional final of the Cutty Sark Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 24 per cent of the finalists.

**THE TIMES CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING WORKS**

ACROSS

1 Divisive feature of new currency (7, 5).

9 Fed up about girl being ridiculed (9).

11 Order to be Governor—good man (6).

12 Sporty fellow may perhaps enter selling race (8).

13 With card-game family needs tabloid (6).

15 Colours—with gilt, say? (13).

16 Avoid commitment to conflict on boundary (8).

19 Soviet port does somehow get with it (6).

21 Noted difference between black and white neighbours (8).

23 Blazes a note to the gods (6).

26 Fill in entire section of cloth (5).

27 It defines terms at last (9).

28 Priceless rationalists? (12).

**DOWN**

1 Without a door refuse to enter here (7).

2 Form of song for anglers (5).

3 Makes no progress in Tappin's day (5, 4).

4 The end of a snob (4).

5 Once the fame of US standard (3, 5).

6 Number the road? Impossible (12, 3).

7 Eat them raw, or maybe steam too (8).

8 Mocks runaways (5).

14 A snag if this architectural feature were under one metre (8).

16 Tradesman no extremist (9).

17 Widow's settlement in vulgar establishment on river (8).

18 How crafty sleuth may get a move on (6).

20 Puts on as total points (7).

21 Exact copy of voice (5).

24 Early heartbreak (5).

25 Quietly bare one's head to Egyptian god (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15137

ACROSS

1 DIVISIVE  
9 FED UP  
11 ORDER  
12 SPORTY  
13 WITH CARD  
15 COLOURS  
16 AVOID  
19 SOVIET  
21 NOTED  
23 BLAZES  
26 FILL IN  
27 IT DEFINES  
28 PRICELESS

DOWN

1 WITHOUT  
2 FORM OF  
3 MAKES NO  
4 THE END  
5 ONCE THE  
6 NUMBER  
7 EAT THEM  
8 MOCKS  
14 A SNAG  
16 TRADESMAN  
17 WIDOW'S  
18 HOW CRAFTY  
20 PUTS ON  
21 EXACT COPY  
24 EARLY  
25 QUIETLY  
26 FILL IN

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MALCOLM—On January 31st at St. Peter's, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Malcolm, a son, James John Malcolm.

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NORTON—On January 31st at St. Peter's, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Norton, a son, James John Norton.

ROBINSON—On January 31st at St. Peter's, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Robinson, a son, James John Robinson.

THOMAS—On January 31st at St. Peter's, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas, a son, James John Thomas.

**DEATHS**

LOREAN—On January 31st at St. Peter's, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Lorean, a son, James John Lorean.

MAYSON—On January 31st at St. Peter's, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Mayson, a son, James John Mayson.

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**PERSONAL COLUMNS**

ALSO ON PAGE 23

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE TIMES**

The Times deeply regrets the inconvenience and reduction in service to its classified advertisers. This is caused by severe staff shortages in the Telephone Sales Department. Whilst everything possible is being done to improve the situation, we would ask advertisers to continue sending advertisements and notices in writing to The Times, Room N315, PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. If you require any further help, please ring 01-837 3311; we apologise should there be a delay in getting through.

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**THE GILBERT & SUE**

London, W.2. The Gilbert & Sue Club, a friendly and social club, is open to all. It has a large bar, a billiard room, and a dance floor. It is open from 7.30 pm to 11.30 pm. Tel: 01-837 3311.

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